

# Office Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

EXEMPTED FROM AUTOMATIC  
DECLASSIFICATION

FROM : SAC, SAN ANTONIO (100-242)

SUBJECT: CENTRAL RESEARCH DESK

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/BK DERIVED FROM:  
Reason: 25X(1) AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
Date of Review 3/3/92 EXEMPTION CODE 25X(1)  
DATE 3/3/92 11-1

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

There is being enclosed herewith one copy of an 82-page book entitled, "The Road is Rocky" by DON WEST.

[redacted] obtained this copy of the book from HARRY KOGER and his wife, GRACE KOGER, 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas. It is noted that information furnished this office by Bureau letter dated September 29, 1950, reflected that

It is further noted that FRED ESTES, Secretary of the Texas Communist Party District # 23 from Houston, Texas, stayed over-night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. KOGER on the evening of October 20, 1951, as observed by SAs JACK B. PEDEN and [REDACTED] ESTES was identified as State Secretary by [REDACTED] (S)

DON WEST, the author of this book who presently resides near Atlanta, Georgia, and is subject of a Security Matter case of which the Atlanta office is origin, was known to be a Communist Party member in 1941 to 1949, according to information furnished by [redacted]

Atlanta, Georgia, who furnished information in a signed statement dated August 28, 1950, as indicated in the report of SA JOSEPH C. HOLMS, dated November 3, 1950 at Atlanta, in the case entitled "DONALD LEE WEST; SECURITY MATTER - C."

According to [redacted] HARRY KOGER has stated that 5,000 copies of the enclosed book were printed by the Carleton Printing Company, 111 North Street, San Antonio, Texas. (S)

[redacted] and [redacted] advised that at a meeting held on the evening of November 8, 1951 at the KOGER'S residence, all persons present assisted in mailing a leaflet to numerous people, soliciting orders for the above book. The leaflet reflected that order should be mailed to "GRACE KOGER, Secretary of 'The Road Is Rocky' Publishing Committee, 110 West Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas." These informants related that a mailing list used by the KOGERS included one headed "N.G." which, according to informants, was believed to set out the names and addresses of all subscribers in the San Antonio area to the publication National Guardian which, according to the informants, is the official publication of the Progressive Party. KOGER also advised that a mailing list of about 2,000 teachers in the United States had been furnished them by DON WEST. b2 b7D

MLJ:md COPIES DESTROYED

Enc. 1

cc: SA-100-7986

cc: SA-100-813

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160750 - 23

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Director, FBI

~~SECRET~~

12/19/51

~~SECRET~~  
This book in content is a bitter criticism of the alleged under-privileged conditions of and discrimination against the Negro and Mexican - American people in the United States.

Particular attention is pointed to the poem entitled, "U. S. INVENTORY, 1951," on pages 17, 18, 19 and 20, which is in content a criticism of the United States' participation in the Korean war. It is believed that this book will be distributed to some extent at least all over the United States and will be of some interest to the Research Desk because of this.

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SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

June 5, 1952

RECORDED - 38

Director, FBI (100-20396) - 122

EX. - 80

DON LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C

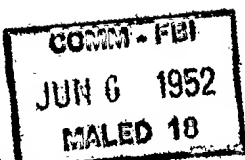
Reurlet May 15, 1952.

The Bureau is unable to check its indices on the name "Neilson" without further identifying data. There is no record in the Bureau files concerning the Elsinore School in Denmark.

JUN 5 8 16 PM '52  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
FBI  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JJW:6mw



JUN 12 1952

7831  
Jm

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

FROM : *K* SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

SUBJECT: DON LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C

*g*

DATE: May 15, 1952

WEST is a S. I. Subject in this Division. [redacted] a PSI, advised Special Agents ALDEN F. MILLER and C. DALLAS MOBLEY on 4-11-52 that WEST has offered to arrange for some young men to attend the Elsinore School in Denmark, through a friend in New York City identified as "NEILSON".

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b7D

WEST indicated to [redacted] that "NEILSON" was a close friend of his and was apparently arranging to send a large group of American students to Elsinore in the fall. WEST himself is believed to have attended this school.

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The Bureau and New York are requested to check their indices in order to identify "NEILSON" and to furnish any security data concerning the Elsinore School in Denmark.

CDM/jjd  
CC: New York (100-22129)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/29/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

RECORDED - 129

INDEXED - 129

EX - 69

100-20396-

MAY 20 1952

## INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Atlanta

Field Division

(Date)

2-11-52

Title and Character of Case

Rev. DONALD L. WEST

INTERNAL

Field Division File Number

100-559

Bureau File Number

100-20396

Description of Property Being Held

Documentary evidence publications. 16 mm film - movie.  
Photostatic copies of Daily Worker. 22 items documentary  
evidence, photostat copy of file on MABLE C. ADAMS WEST,  
writings and literature DON L. WEST.

Date Property Acquired and Authority for Acquisition

2-17-42; 7-26-48; 8-7-48; 5-12-48; 5-25-48.

Source from Which Property Acquired

Various CNDIs. Transferred from 1-A Teachers Certificate  
Section. Co. Dept. of Education - Original. [redacted]  
[redacted] Fulton Co., Ga.

Supply Room.

Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Which Have Been Made to  
Dispose of It

Security

112-20396-  
NOT RECORDED  
80 FEB 26 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

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50155-1395/1952  
JBL:cm1

10

SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

June 25, 1952

Director, FBI (100-20396)

DONALD LEE WEST, was  
Security Matter - C

The Bureau desires that you bring this case to  
a logical conclusion without delay.

0-1 11/17/52 to Surep immcd. /wro

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 COK/P&K

NOTE ON YELLOW ONLY:

Subject is on SI. Last report from office of origin  
8-21-51 at Atlanta.

JJW:mib 7/2/52

RECORDED-136  
EX-136

100-20396-123  
JUN 26 1952  
85

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMM - FBI  
JUN 25 1952  
MAILED 24

229  
60 JUN 30 1952

7/13/52

## Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: AUG 27 1952

FROM : SAC, New York (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was  
SM - C

Re Atlanta letter to Bureau dated 5/15/52 and Atlanta letter to NY dated 7/19/52.

The requested photostatic copies of the "Daily Worker" are being forwarded to the Atlanta Office as enclosures to this letter.

It will be noted, however, that the issue of 11/1/34 contained only six pages and therefore does not contain page 37.

The indices of the NYO failed to reflect information concerning the "Elsinore School in Denmark."

The indices of the NYO reflected voluminous references to the name "NEILSON" and without more specific information identification of NEILSON as subject WEST'S friend will be impossible. Unless advised to the contrary, no further investigation will be conducted in this matter. RUC

1-Atlanta (100-559) (Encs. 7)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

RECORDED - 122

100-20396-124  
INDEXED

RJR:SEW

INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

~~SECRET~~

Atlanta

Field Division

August 1, 1952

(Date)

Title and Character of Case

DONALD LEE WEST, wa.

INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Field Division File Number

AT 100-559

Bureau File Number

Description of Property Being Held

- See attached sheet.

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK  
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2.2  
Date of Review 3/3/82

G. I. R. -3

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Date Property Acquired and Authority for Acquisition

- See attached sheet.

Source from Which Property Acquired

- See attached sheet.

Location of Property

- Chief Clerk's Office, Bulky Exhibits.

Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Which Have Been Made to  
Dispose of It - Possible use as evidence.

FRJ:bd

3-Bureau

1-Atlanta File 100-559

1-Atlanta Bulky Exhibit File

100-559-20-296  
NOT RECORDED  
80 AUG 7 1952

COPIES DESTROYED 4/22/59

~~SECRET~~

FIVE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF  
DATE

125

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

Bulky Exhibit No.	Description	Date Property Acquired	Source From Which Obtained
100-559-1B12	One partial roll of 16 mm. film pertaining to captioned subject	7/26/48	surveillance
100-559-1B16(1)	Mail tracer	5/17/47	investigation
[ 100-559-1B16(2)	Letter dated 9/12/41 to "Dear Friend Don" and signed "Harold"	8/12/48	investigation [X]
100-559-1B16(3)	Signed statement of JOEL MATHEWS	1/8/42	investigation
100-559-1B16(4)	Excerpts from speech of DONALD WEST, Superintendent, Lula High School	11/21/48	investigation
100-559-1B16(5)	Lula High School "The Scrapper", 11/12/48 containing photo of DONALD L. WEST		investigation
100-559-1B16(6)	Specimen of handwriting of DONALD L. WEST on photostat of application for drivers license	11/12/48	investigation
100-559-1B16(7)	Eleven photos of DONALD WEST	7/13/44	investigation
100-559-1B16(8)	Campaign Literature	7/14/44	Sheriff W. A. CROW, Gainesville, Georgia
100-559-1B16(9)	Article of subject's from Readers Scope Magazine	7/14/44	unknown
100-559-1B16(10)	Folder, "Georgia's Crisis" Mimeographed letter on letterhead of instant Committee; advertisement for book, "Clods of Southern Earth" by DON WEST	2/20/47	C. L. BARTON
[ 100-559-1B16(11)	Communist Party membership card of JIM WEBB (alias of DON WEST)	2/24/47	Reliable, confidential [X]
100-559-1B16(12)	Photostatic copy of pamphlet "The Voice of the Fighting South" and statement of purpose and objectives Committee to aid the fighting South	8/19/47	New York Office [X]

COPIES DESTROYED

4/22/59 #16

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

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Bulky Exhibit No.	Description	Date Property Acquired	Source From Which Obtained
100-559-1B16(13)	Photo of SIME BALEN	11/13/47	Washington Field
100-559-1B16(14)	Photos of IRVING GOFF and subject taken 6/10/48 by SA [redacted] b6 b7C	7/29/48	FBI Laboratory
100-559-1B16(15)	Photos of WEST, PRICE and STAFFORD taken 3/26/48	7/29/48	FBI Laboratory
100-559-1B16(16)	Photostatic copy of "Daily Worker" for June 22, 1947	9/18/48	New York Office
100-559-1B16(17)	Photo of DONALD WEST from 1948 Oglethorpe University yearbook	9/18/48 b6 b7C	SA [redacted]
100-559-1B16(18)	Photostats of Teachers Records for MABEL CONSTANCE WEST at DeKalb Co. Board of Education	5/30/48	[redacted] DeKalb Co. PD
100-559-1B16(19)	Photostats of drivers license applications for DON WEST and MABEL ADAMS WEST and photos of signatures	5/13/48 b6 b7C	Drivers License Div., Ga. Dept. of Public Safety
100-559-1B17	Photostatic copy of complete file on MABEL C. ADAMS WEST at Teachers Certificate Section, Ga. Dept. of Education	5/12/48	[redacted] Ga. State Board of Education
100-559-1B18	Writings and literature of DON WEST	1934 b6 b7C	Assist. Sol. [redacted]
100-559-1B19	One copy of book entitled "The Road is Rocky" by DON WEST	1/14/52	[redacted] HARRY and GRACE KOGER, 110 W. Cypress St., San Antonio, Texas
100-559-1B20(1)	Book entitled "Toil and Hunger", poems by DON WEST	6/24/41	HOYT W. BROWN, Cmr. Post 9, Am. Leg., Brunswick, Ga.
100-559-1B20(2)	Issues of "The Country Parson"	6/24/41	HOYT W. BROWN

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AT 100-559

Bulky Exhibit No.

Description

~~SECRET~~

Date Property  
Acquired

Source From  
Which Obtained

100-559-1B20(3)	1 issue "The Southern News Almanac"	6/24/41	HOYT W. BROWN
100-559-1B21(1)	Book of poems entitled, "Grab Grass", by DONALD L. WEST	2/17/42	Various informants 1941 - 2/17/42
100-559-1B21(2)	Pamphlet entitled "A Christian Fellowship Message", by Rev. DONALD L. WEST	2/17/42	Various informants 1941 - 2/17/42
100-559-1B21(3)	Copy of pamphlet entitled "The Span", April and May, 1941 issues	2/17/42	Various informants 1941 - 2/17/42
100-559-1B21(4)	Booklet entitled "Songs for Southern Workers", prepared by DON WEST	2/17/42	Various informants 1941 - 2/17/42
100-559-1B21(5)	March, April and May, 1941 issues of "The Country Parson"	2/17/42	Various informants 1941 - 2/17/42

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: SEPTEMBER 11, 1952

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C

The Atlanta Journal on August 13, 1952 carried an Associated Press story date-lined at Washington concerning the testimony of HARVEY M. MATUSOW, Dayton, Ohio, Agent for the Ohio Commission on UnAmerican activities, before the House Committee on UnAmerican Activities.

*of known unreliability 3/3/55 pmt*

According to this news story, MATUSOW on March 5, 1952 had testified that DONALD LEE WEST had participated in a Communist Party scheme to infiltrate the Boy Scouts of America. He identified WEST as a Baptist Preacher and Communist Organizer who once lived in Bethel, Ohio. He claimed to have met WEST at a Communist Party meeting in 1951. This is believed to be a typographical error since WEST lived in Ohio in the early 1930s. In 1951 he was living on a farm near Douglasville, Georgia, his present residence.

The Washington Field Office is requested to obtain and forward to Atlanta a copy of MATUSOW's testimony concerning WEST.

Cincinnati, at Dayton, Ohio, is requested to interview MATUSOW concerning his knowledge of WEST. The Atlanta file contains no information concerning WEST's association with the Boy Scouts and very little is known of his activities in Ohio in the early 1930s.

For the Bureau's information, WEST was interviewed by CELESTIN SIBLEY, reporter for the Atlanta Journal. Her story in the August 14, 1952 issue, reflects that WEST denied the above allegations. He is quoted as saying, "Twenty years ago, I wrote a poem that appeared in the Daily Worker. I was a Communist then." He denied that he was now a Communist Party member.

WEST is carried as a Security Index Subject in this Division.

CDM:bd

cc: Cincinnati  
Washington Field

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/18/82 BY SP4/ast/px

EX-25

RECORDED - 118

INDEXED-118

7-187  
60 SEP 24 1952

100-20396-125  
SEP 11 1952

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

September 19, 1952

FROM : SAC, WFO (100-18793)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Re Atlanta letter dated September 11, 1952.

The testimony of HARVEY M. MATUSOW, Dayton, Ohio, given on March 5, 1952, is in "Hearings Before The Subcommittee To Investigate The Administration Of The Internal Security Act And Other Internal Security Laws Of the Committee On The Judiciary, United States Senate." A copy of the testimony is being forwarded to Atlanta.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities files did not contain the above information.

Information was received from the Committee On The Judiciary, United States Senate, that the address, as of September 17, 1952, for HARVEY M. MATUSOW is 141 West 10th Street, New York City, telephone ALgonquin 5-9385. This information is for Cincinnati in the event MATUSOW has not been contacted.

HHK:jas

- 2 - Atlanta (100-559) Encl. (1)
- 2 - Cincinnati

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF *declared*  
DATE *5/25/82*

DECLASSIFIED BY *SP-1 GSK/PSK*  
ON *3/12/82*

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECORDED - 129

INDEXED - 129

EX-141

100-20396-126

SEP 23 1952

132 SEP 29 1952

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: September 25, 1952

FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (100-2820)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C

For the information of the New York Office, the Atlanta Office is the office of origin with regard to the subject, and he is carried as an SI subject in that division. By letter dated 9/11/52, addressed to the Bureau, the Atlanta Office advised that the "Atlanta Journal" on 8/13/52, had carried an Associated Press story concerning the testimony of HARVEY M. MATSOW who was indicated to be in the article an agent for the Ohio Commission on Un-American Activities. The article, however, concerned MATSOW'S testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Washington, D. C.

*OF KNOWN UNRELIABILITY, 3/3/55*

This news story reported that MATSOW, on 3/5/52, had testified that the subject had participated in a Communist Party scheme to infiltrate the Boy Scouts of America. It reported further that MATSOW had identified the subject as a Baptist preacher and Communist organizer who once lived in Bethel, Ohio. The story further reported that MATSOW claimed to have met WEST at a Communist Party meeting in 1951. The Atlanta Office pointed out that the date of 1951 is believed to be a typographical error, since WEST lived in Ohio in the early 1930's and as of 1951 was living on a farm near Douglasville, Georgia, his present address. The Atlanta Office requested that this office interview MATSOW concerning his knowledge of WEST, as the Atlanta Office has no information concerning WEST'S association with the Boy Scouts of America, and also, very little is known of his activities in Ohio in the early 1930's. An article in the "Atlanta Journal" of 8/14/52, reflects that WEST denied MATSOW'S allegations, but stated that he had been a Communist twenty years ago when he wrote a poem that appeared in the "Daily Worker."

The Washington Field Office in a letter dated 9/19/52, addressed to the Bureau in instant matter, advised that information had been received from the Judiciary Committee of the United States Senate that as of 9/17/52, HARVEY M. MATSOW'S address was 141 W. 10th Street, New York City, telephone ALgonquin 5-9835.

RCB:JAM

REGISTERED MAIL

CC: 1 Atlanta (100-559)  
2 New York  
1 66-2397

RECORDED - 4

INDEXED - 5

100-20396-127  
7 SEP 30 1952

32 OCT 8 1952

COPIES DESTROYED

11/21/59 #16

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

Letter to the Director, dated 9/25/52.

With respect to MATSOW, reference is made to my letter of 6/3/52 to the Bureau, cc to New York, concerning MATSOW, which advised that he had left Dayton, Ohio, on 5/15/52, with the intention of taking up permanent residence in New York City. There has been no indication received by this office that MATSOW has returned to this territory and it is presumed that he is still residing in New York City. The New York Office is therefore requested to interview him concerning the subject, as desired by Atlanta.

It is also noted that MATSOW has had no connection with the Ohio Un-American Activities Commission since a short time prior to his departure from Dayton, Ohio. RUC.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: November 7, 1952

FROM : *KW* SAC, Atlanta (100-559)REGISTERED MAILSUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C**SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL**

Reference is made to Washington Field letter of September 19, 1952 which enclosed a copy of a report on hearings held by the Committee on the Judiciary US Senate, 82nd Congress captioned "Communist Tactics in Controlling Youth Organizations."

*of known unreliability, 3/15/52*  
Beginning on page 199 of this report is the testimony of HARVEY MATUSOV before this Committee on March 5, 1952. On page 217 of the report MATUSOV stated "Yes our line was changed drastically. I might cite the example of DON WEST, who is at present one of the Communist Organizers in the State of Georgia, the same DON WEST whose book of poetry was published, 'Klods of Southern Earth' in 1940. Mr. WEST was Bethel, Ohio, and a clergyman in the Baptist Church. I am taking this from the testimony of JOHN and MARTHA EDSTON, and they stated that Mr. WEST had seven churches under his jurisdiction, and a boy scout troop was organized in each of the churches, and his plan was to indoctrinate. I met him at a meeting of the Communist Party in 1951."

MATUSOV now resides at 141 West 10th Street, New York City, telephone Algonquin 5-9385.

The New York Office is requested to interview MATUSOV and forward details concerning his knowledge of the Communist Party activities of DON WEST. Facts should be developed concerning the Communist Party meeting in 1951 which MATUSOV in the above testimony indicates that WEST attended. For the information of the New York Division, WEST has resided on a farm in Douglas County, Georgia since 1951. There is no indication in the Atlanta files that he has been active in the Communist Party since 1950.

WEST was interviewed by the Atlanta Journal as a result of an AP Story based on the above testimony by MATUSOV. The Atlanta Journal for August 14, 1952, reflects that WEST denied the allegations of MATUSOV. He was quoted as saying twenty years ago, I wrote a poem that appeared in the Daily Worker, I was a Communist then. He denied that he was now a Communist Party member.

Washington Field is requested to identify JOHN and MARTHA EDSTON referred to in the above testimony of MATUSOV. A copy of their

CDM:jjd

CC: New York City (100-22129)

CC: Washington Field (100-18793)

RECORDED-107

INDEXED-107

100-20396-128

NOV 10 1952

70 NOV 21 1952

COPIES DESTROYED 4/27/59 #16

**SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL**DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/RSK  
ON 5/18/82

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY ROUTING

SLIP (S) OF *Declass*DATE *5/15/52*

I.R. -8

AT 100-559

testimony held before this Committee or the House Committee on Un-American Activities should be obtained and forwarded to Atlanta.

11  
This office is presently in the process of preparing a summary report on WEST who is carried as a Security Index subject.

- 2 -

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

FROM : SAC, WFO (100-18793)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST G.I.R. 3  
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: December 22, 1952

Reference is made to the Atlanta letter dated November 7, 1952, to the Director.

Washington Field Office indices regarding MARTHA and JOHN EDSTON reflect no record.

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SE [redacted] on November 24, 1952, found no record for MARTHA and JOHN EDSTON in the files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

[redacted] an employee of the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, advised that JOHN and MARTHA EDSTON never testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee. He stated that the information regarding the EDSTON's which was given by Mr. HARVEY MATUSOW, was most likely received by Mr. MATUSOW, who is an investigator for the Ohio Un-American Activities Commission, Columbus, Ohio. [redacted] suggested that Mr. SIDNEY ISAACS, Legal Director and Counsel of the Ohio Un-American Activities Commission would be the person most likely that would be able to provide the testimony given by JOHN and MARTHA EDSTON, if such testimony had been given. He stated that Mr. ISAACS was a former Special Agent for the FBI and has always been most cooperative.

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b7C

SE [redacted] obtained from the House Committee on Un-American Activities, a copy of Hearings Regarding Communist Activities in the Cincinnati, Ohio Area, Part 1, which had been held on July 12, 13, 14, and 15, and August 8, 1950, before the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives. This booklet from pages 2661 until 2713 reflected the testimony of one JOHN J. EDMINSTON, and from pages 2713 to 2730 the testimony of MARTHA NICHOLS EDMINSTON, wife of JOHN J. EDMINSTON. MR & MRS.

b6  
b7C

This booklet reflects that Mrs. MARTHA NICHOLS EDMINSTON, on page 2716 and page 2726, testified concerning one DON WEST of Bethel, Ohio, a minister, religion unknown, who was a boy scout leader in Bethel, Ohio, who was active in the American Peace Mobilization and who had been identified to Mrs. EDMINSTON as a Communist Party member. She further identified this DON WEST as a person who had one finger missing off one of his hands.

HHK:jaj/efm

RECORDED - 57  
INDEXED - 57  
68 JAN 12 1953

2-Atlanta (100-559) Encl-1 (RM)

COPIES DESTROYED 4/22/54 #16

DEC 23 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/13/02 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

WFO 100-18793

Inasmuch as the similarity exists between the testimony given by JOHN and MARTHA EDMINSTON and the testimony which was attributed to JOHN and MARTHA EDSTON, a copy of the House Committee on Un-American Activities Hearings reflecting the testimony of JOHN J. and MARTHA NICHOLS EDMINSTON is being herewith enclosed for the use of the Atlanta Office.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities was very reluctant to release this copy inasmuch as the available stock of booklets is almost depleted. RUC

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 1/8/53

LVB FROM : SAC, New York (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM - CALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSKRe Atlanta letter to the Director dated 11/7/52 requesting New York  
to interview [redacted] re CP activities of captioned subject.[redacted] of known unreliability, 2/6/53 mm  
[redacted] 141 West 10th Street, New York City, was  
interviewed on 12/30/52 by SAs JAMES J. JOHNSTON and [redacted] at which  
time he advised that he had met the subject only once and that this meeting  
took place in San Antonio, Texas, about February, 1951. [redacted] stated that  
at that time he was a member of the USAF.b6  
b7C  
b7D[redacted] stated that he was introduced to WEST by one ILYA BRESSLER  
at an informal gathering held in a private home in San Antonio. He  
commented that this gathering was not an official CP meeting but that all  
those persons in attendance were believed by [redacted] to be CP members.[redacted] added that during the course of the evening he had a  
conversation with WEST in which they discussed Communism and the Korean War.  
However, he advised that he could not recall the details of the conversation.[redacted] said that he could not recall in whose home the above  
mentioned meeting took place or the address of this home inasmuch as he was  
driven there by BRESSLER. He also said that he could not recall any of the  
others present except WEST and BRESSLER. He added that he did not know  
BRESSLER's official CP connections.[redacted] advised that this was his only contact with WEST and  
that he could not recall any additional information regarding WEST to which  
he has not already testified. However, he did state that JOHN and MARTHA  
EDMISTON, party members from Waynesville, Ohio, had told him that WEST had  
attended CP meetings with them.It is to be noted that relet mentions JOHN and MARTHA EDMISTON.  
[redacted] stated that the correct spelling of their surname is EDMISTON.

In view of the above information, this case is being considered

RUC.

1 - Atlanta (100-559)

CEA:RMK

68 JAN 21 1953

RECORDED-37

INDEXED-37

EX-112

JAN 9 1953

130

D-1 AT re Summary 3-17-53  
4-10-53  
7124

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: April 21, 1953

FROM : SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, Was.  
Don West, Jim Weaver,  
James Allen Weaver,  
Jim Webb  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference is made to the Closing summary report of the Atlanta Division, dated 4-21-53.

Please be advised that no effort is being made at this time to interview WEST. To date, there has been no indication that WEST would be cooperative in an interview. The Atlanta Office has in effect a program of interviewing former known Communist Party members. As this program progresses, consideration will be given to interviewing WEST at a later date.

CDM/ds

Class. & Ext. By ~~SP-1 GSK/PSK~~  
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
Date of Review ~~3/19/92~~ 3/19/82

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

RECORDED - 79

100-20396-131  
APR 23 1953

INTERAGENCY  
ADVISED OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) ON 5/25/82  
DATE 5/25/82

~~SECRET~~

BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile: 100-20396

~~SECRET~~

Atlanta

Field Division

2/12/53

Date

Title and Character of Case:

DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Date Property Acquired:

See attached sheet.

Source From Which Property Acquired:

See attached sheet.

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit:

Bulky Exhibit Cabinet  
CGO

Reason for Retention of Property and  
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same:

Possible use as evidence.

Description of Property or Exhibit and  
Identity of Agent Submitting Same:

See attached sheet.

b6  
b7C

AGENTS:

and others.

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK  
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
Date of Review 3/3/92 3/3/82

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

JDW:ege

- 3 - Bureau
- 1 - AT 100-559
- 1 - AT 66-1395

100-20396-  
NOT RECORDED  
146 FEB 24 1953

30 MAR 12 1953

Field File #: 100-559

~~SECRET~~

53 MAR 9 - 1953

COPIES DESTROYED 1/29/87 #16

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF  
DATE 5/25/82

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

Bulky Exhibit	Description	Date Acquired	Source
1B12	1 partial roll of 16mm. film pertaining to captioned subject.	7/26/48	Surveillance
1B16(1)	Mail tracer	5/17/47	Investigation
[1B16(2)	Letter dated 9/12/41 to "Dear Friend Don" and signed "Harold".	8/12/48	Investigation
1B16(3)	Signed statement of JOEL MATHEWS	1/8/42	Investigation
1B16(4)	Excerpts from speech of DONALD WEST, Superintendent, Lula High School.	11/21/48	Investigation
1B16(5)	Lula High School "The Scrapper", containing photo of DONALD L. WEST.	11/12/48	Investigation
1B16(6)	Specimen of handwriting of DONALD L. WEST on photostat of application for drivers license.	11/12/48	Investigation
1B16(7)	11 photos of DONALD WEST.	7/13/44	Investigation
1B16(8)	Campaign literature.	7/14/44	Sheriff W. A. CROW, Gainesville, Ga.
1B16(9)	Article of subject's from Readers Scope Magazine.	7/14/44	Unknown
1B16(10)	Folder, "Georgia's Crisis". Mimeographed letter on letterhead of instant Committee; advertisement for book, "Clods of Southern Earth" by DON WEST.	2/20/47	C. L. BARTON
[1B16(11)	Communist Party membership card of JIM WEBB (alias of DON WEST).	2/24/47	Reliable, confidential
1B16(12)	Photostatic copy of pamphlet "The Voice of the Fighting South" and statement of purpose and objectives Committee to Aid the Fighting South.	8/19/47	New York Office
1B16(13)	Photo of [REDACTED]	11/13/47	Washington Field

b6  
b7C

- 2 -

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COPIES DESTROYED 4/22/59 #16

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

Bulky Exhibit	Description	Date Acquired	Source
1B16(14)	Photos of IRVING GOFF and subject taken 6/10/48 by SA C. T. HAYNES.	7/29/48	FBI Laboratory
1B16(15)	Photos of WEST, PRICE and STAFFORD taken 3/26/48.	7/29/48	FBI Laboratory
1B16(16)	Photostatic copy of "Daily Worker" for 6/22/47.	9/18/48	New York Office
1B16(17)	Photo of DONALD WEST from 1948 Oglethorpe University yearbook.	9/18/48	SA [REDACTED] b6 b7C
1B16(18)	Photostats of Teachers Records for MABEL CONSTANCE WEST at DeKalb Co. Board of Education.	5/30/48	[REDACTED] DeKalb Co. PD
1B16(19)	Photostats of drivers license applications for DON WEST and MABEL ADAMS WEST and photos of signatures.	5/13/48 b6 b7C	Drivers License Div. Ga. Dept. of Public Safety
1B17	Photostatic copy of complete file on MABEL C. ADAMS WEST at Teachers Certificate Section, Ga. Dept. of Education.	5/12/48 b6 b7C	[REDACTED] Ga. State Board of Education
1B18	Writings and literature of DON WEST.	1934	Asst. Sol. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
1B19	1 copy of book entitled "The Road is Rocky" by DON WEST.	1/14/52	[REDACTED] HARRY and GRACE KOGER, 110 W. Cypress St., San Antonio, Texas.
1B20(1)	Book entitled "Toil and Hunger", poems by DON WEST.	6/24/41	HOYT W. BROWN Cmr. Post 9, Am. Leg., Brunswick, Ga
1B20(2)	Issues of "The Country Parson".	6/24/41	HOYT W. BROWN
1B20(3)	1 issue "The Southern News Almanac".	6/24/41	HOYT W. BROWN
1B21(1)	Book of poems entitled "Crab Grass", by DONALD L. WEST.	2/17/42	Various informants 1941 - 2/17/42

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AT 100-559

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<u>Bulky Exhibit</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date Acquired</u>	<u>Source</u>
1B21(2)	Pamphlet entitled "A Christian Fellowship Message", by Rev. DONALD L. WEST.	2/17/42	Various informants 1941 - 2/17/42
1B21(3)	Copy of pamphlet entitled "The Span", April and May, 1941 issues.	2/17/42	Various informants 1941 - 2/17/42
1B21(4)	Booklet entitled "Songs for Southern Workers", prepared by DON WEST.	2/17/42	Various informants 1941 - 2/17/42
1B21(5)	March, April and May, 1941 issues of "The Country Parson".	2/17/42	Various informants 1941 - 2/17/42

~~SECRET~~  
~~SECRET~~

# ~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 3

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

ATLANTA

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 06-28-2010 FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT: <b>ATLANTA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE: <b>4-21-53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <b>3/23-27; 4/1-4, 6/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY: <b>C. DALLAS MOBLEY</b>	<b>DS</b>
TITLE: <b>DONALD LEE WEST, Was. Don West, Jim Weaver, James Allen Weaver, [Jim Webb]</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE: <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>	

## ~~LEE WEST - SUMMARY REPORT~~

Synopsis of Fact: WEST, a poet and writer, and one time minister, resides on farm near Douglasville, Ga., engaged in both farming and writing. In 1934 WEST was Trade Union Organizer for the C.P. in North Carolina. In 1935-36 he was District Organizer for the C.P. in the State of Ky.; also served as State Organizer for the Workers Alliance of Ky., in 1936. Records of HOMER BATES CHASE, former Organizer for District 31, C.P., USA, in 1947, identified WEST as C.P. member with 15 years experience in the Party. The Daily Worker, in 1934, published a poem entitled "Listen, I Am a Communist", by WEST; numerous Daily Worker references on WEST reported. Writings of WEST described as revolutionary in Daily Worker article. In 1947-48, WEST served as Executive Vice-Chairman of the Progressive Party of Ga., which, according to the informant, considered reliable, was dominated and controlled by C.P. members. WEST was once affiliated with the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, People's Institute of Applied Religion, and American Peace Mobilization. Background and C.P. contacts set forth. Atlanta informants report that WEST is no longer active in C.P. affairs.

ATTORNEY  
REF. ID:  
FBI FILE NO.  
BY:

CLASS.

100-20396

DATE 4/8/92

SP-1 GSK/PSK

4/8/92

4/8/82

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <b>COPY IN FILE</b>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	100-20396	RECORDED AND INDEXED: <b>152</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 5 - Bureau (100-20396) (REGISTERED MAIL) 3 - Atlanta (100-559)		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	CHECKED OFF <b>RECORDED-107</b>
		DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	JACKETED <b>INDEXED-107</b>
		ROUTED TO:	FILE

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

AT, 100-559

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DETAILS: AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

All informants hereinafter identified are of known reliability, unless otherwise indicated.

I. BACKGROUND

(a) Birth Data

WEST was born June 6, 1908, at Cartecay, Georgia, Gilmer County.

(Records of Martha Berry School, Rome, Ga.)

(b) Citizenship

American citizen by birth.

(c) Education

Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tennessee (1925-29); A.B. Degree

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee (1929-32); B.S. in Divinity

Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia (1937-44); M.A. Degree

University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia (1944 - Special summer work).

University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois (1945 - Special summer work.)

International Peoples College, Elsinene, Denmark (1933-34 - Special courses)

(Records of Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Ga.)

(d) Marital Status

Married MABEL CONSTANCE WEST, at Middlesboro, Kentucky, December 14, 1928. ~~(T-1)~~

- 2 -  
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AT, 100-559

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(e) Military Record

None

(f) Criminal Record

WEST, under FBI #814 505, has the following identification record:

Arrested 3-15-34, as DON WEST, Philadelphia P.D. #139318, charged with suspicion of larceny of auto; discharged following Magistrate's Hearing same date.

Arrested 7-8-34, as JAMES ALLEN WEAVER, Danville, Va. P.D. #3239, charged with investigation; released.

(g) Employment

Place	Dates	Source
Communist Party Trade Union Organizer for North Carolina	1934-35	[T-2] <del>(S)</del>
District Organizer Communist Party of Kentucky	1935-36	[T-2] <del>(S)</del>
Secretary, Kentucky Workers Alliance 103 S. Broadway, Lexington, Ky.	1936	1937 Lexington, Ky. City Directory & Daily Worker of 10-5-36, page 5
Minister, Congregationalist Church, Bethel, Ohio	1939-40	[T-1] <del>(S)</del>
Minister, Congregationalist Church, Meansville, Ga.	Nov. 1940 to Nov. 1941	[T-3] <del>(S)</del>
Principal, Lula High School, Lula, Ga.	9-1-42 to 6-6-45	Dept. of Education Records Hall County Gainesville, Ga.

- 3 -  
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AT, 100-559

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Place	Dates	Source
Professor, Oglethorpe University Atlanta, Georgia	1947-48	Oglethorpe University records.
Unitarian Work Camp RFD #4 Douglasville, Ga.	1940-49	T-4
Home Mission Council of North America Chicago, Illinois (As traveling repre- sentative in South and Southwest)	1949-51	T-5
Former writer, RFD #4, Douglas- ville, Ga. (Writes for "Southern Farmer", of Montgomery, Alabama)	Sept. 1951 to present	T-4

(h) Residences

Place	Dates	Source
Gilmer and Bartow Counties, Georgia	Prior to 1925	T-6
Harrogate, Tenn. Lincoln Memorial University	1925-29	Oglethorpe University records
Nashville, Tenn. Vanderbilt University	1929-32	Oglethorpe University record.
617 Cedar Street Lexington, Ky.	1936-37	Lexington, Ky. City Directory for 1937
RFD #1 Bethel, Ohio	1939-40	T-1
RFD #2 Meansville, Ga.	1940-41	T-3

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Place	Dates	Source
Lula, Georgia	1942-45	[T-7] <del>(S)</del>
Oglethorpe University Campus, Atlanta, Ga.	1946-48	Oglethorpe University records
RFD #4 Douglasville, Ga.	1948-49	[T-4] <del>(S)</del>

(Travel status -- known to have resided part time in the following places:)

110 W. Cypress St. Harlingen, Texas; Bonham, Texas; Calera, Alabama; Pine Bluff, Arkansas	1949-51	[T-4] <del>(S)</del>	] <del>(S)</del>
RFD #4 Douglasville, Ga. (In a very inaccessible and remote area of Douglas Co., west of the Chattahoochee River)	Sept., 1951 to present	[T-4]	

(i) Status of Health

WEST is reported to be in excellent health, and to be actually engaged in farm labor at the present time.

[T-8] ~~(S)~~

(j) Foreign Travel - Passport Data

[The files of T-9, another Government agency, reflect that American Passport #377666 was issued to WEST on May 8, 1931, for travel in the following countries: France, Germany, Denmark, Norway and Sweden. The purpose of this travel was shown as "study", and WEST indicated that he would depart from the United States on May 20, 1931, from New York City, aboard the SS Aquitania. No record of other travel appears.] ~~(S)~~

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## II. CONNECTIONS WITH COMMUNIST PARTY - MEMBERSHIP AND POSITIONS HELD

[Confidential Informant T-2, on April 14, 1948, advised] that WEST had joined the Communist Party in 1934, and was assigned to the State of North Carolina, as Trade Union Organizer for the Communist Party, under the alias JIM WEAVER. In 1935 WEST was made Communist Party District Organizer for the State of Kentucky, and served in this capacity for approximately a year and a half. Informant advised that WEST'S reports as District Organizer for the State of Kentucky had been very encouraging, by showing considerable activity and increased membership, which reached a registration figure of over 200.

PAUL KELLOGG, who succeeded WEST as District Organizer in the State of Kentucky, could locate only approximately 25 Communist Party members following WEST'S departure. The majority of branches and sections of the Party reported by WEST were never located, and over 175 "paper" members of the Communist Party disappeared. Following this incident WEST'S stock in the Communist Party dropped to a low of below zero and, according to informant, for the next two years he remained as inconspicuous as possible.

Confidential Informant T-10, on April 28, 1947, advised that HOMER BATES CHASE, publicly admitted Organizer for District 31, Communist Party, USA, Atlanta, Georgia, was in possession of a 1947 Communist Party membership card, #96336, issued in the name of JIM WEBB, of Atlanta, Georgia. The following data appeared on the descriptive portion of this record, which indicated that JIM WEBB was an alias of WEST:

Club	Atlanta at large
Section	Atlanta
County	Fulton
State	Georgia
Sex	Male
Race	White
Employment	Employed
Time in Party	15 years
Trade	Teacher
Union Affiliation	None
Mass Organization	Southern Conference for Human Welfare
Native	Origin of self and parents - American

[Confidential Informant T-11, in August, 1938, advised] that WEST had been in charge of the Communist Party, Atlanta, Georgia, in 1934.

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The Atlanta Journal, a daily newspaper, on August 14, 1952, carried an article on an interview with WEST, by Mrs. CELESTINE SIBLEY, a reporter. Mrs. SIBLEY quoted WEST as saying, "Twenty years ago I wrote a poem that appeared in the 'Daily Worker'. I was a Communist then." According to this article WEST denied that he is now a member of the Communist Party. GA

[Confidential Informant T-12, on January 8, 1942, advised] that WEST admitted to him having been active in the defense of ANGELO HERNDON, historical Negro Communist Party member who was prosecuted by Fulton County, Atlanta, Georgia, authorities, in 1932. WEST stated to informant that he had helped investigate the HERNDON case for the Communist Party in 1942, and had later assisted HERNDON in the preparation of a book on HERNDON'S life.

[Confidential Informant T-13, on July 29, 1948, advised] that in 1945 WEST appeared at the office of the Daily Worker, in New York City, at which time he requested permission to check files. He was allowed access to "Daily Worker" files because he was a Communist Party member.

[Confidential Informant T-14, a prominent educator, advised] that WEST, in 1948, had admitted to him that he was once a member of the Communist Party. WEST claimed, however, that he had quit the Communist Party in 1936.

[Confidential Informant T-15 advised] that HOMER BATES CHASE, publicly admitted Organizer for District 31, Communist Party, USA, Atlanta, Georgia, had, in 1949, informed him that WEST was a Communist Party member, but had actually quit the Party.

[Confidential Informant T-16, on June 10, 1949, advised] that WEST was a member of the Communist Party, in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1948.

The following references to WEST appear in the "Daily Worker", the official East Coast publication of the Communist Party:

The Daily Worker for 11-1-45 and 6-22-37, identified WEST as Communist Party Organizer for the State of Kentucky.

The 7-20-36 issue of the "Daily Worker" identified WEST as a member of the National Campaign Committee of the Communist Party, from Louisville, Kentucky.

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The "Daily Worker" for 6-19-34 identified WEST as a Communist Party Organizer in the South, who was scheduled to speak in Boston, Massachusetts, at a protest meeting, on June 20, 1934.

The "Daily Worker" for June 11, 1934, in an article on page one, by EDWIN ROLFE, stated that WEST was in New York City, at the offices of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, 156 Fifth Avenue. The article stated: "DON WEST is in New York following his escape from the Atlanta Police and Fascist gangs who have terrorized the Negro and white workers' neighborhoods in a frantic and bestial campaign to stop the wildfire spread of revolutionary struggle in the South".

EDWIN ROLFE, in this article, stated: "Less than a year ago there came to the "Daily Worker" a copy of a small booklet of poems, "Between the Plow Handles", by DON WEST. The poems were folk songs and hill chants, slight but meaningful lyrics of the southern hill country; rebellion smouldered in them. Here and there one felt the work of revolt, but revolution was far off. Today DON WEST, a Communist, is being sought on a charge of inciting insurrection under an old Southern slave law - - -".

Continuing, the above article stated that WEST had published three booklets. References to these booklets were as follows: "There followed, WEST said, a period during which he did organizational work for the Socialist Party, and continued to write poetry. During this period he published his three booklets of verse: 'Between the Plow Handles', 'Crab Grass' and 'Deep Living'. He refers to these poems today as folk poems, not really revolutionary, but he adds that a small volume of verse, this time revolutionary verse, is to be issued by a Virginia publisher within the next few months. It is to be called 'Southern Folks'".

Continuing, this article stated: "About ten months ago DON WEST began to feel that the Socialist Party was not doing the work he felt had to be done among the workers in the South. He didn't quite know what was wrong, but he decided to find out, and so he rode straddled an old motorcycle, rode all the way to New York, and presented himself, dusty and tired, to CLARENCE HATHAWAY, at the 'Daily Worker'. He wanted to see what the Communists had to offer. After a few days spent talking to HATHAWAY,

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reading literature and stocking up with more literature and further study, he returned to Atlanta a Communist."

The "Daily Worker" for October 5, 1936, page 5, identified WEST as State Organizer of the Workers Alliance of Kentucky, and a member of the National Unemployed Committee for EARL BROWDER and JAMES FORD, Communist Party candidates for President and Vice-President, respectively, in the 1936 election.

The Workers Alliance was cited as follows: "Among the successes in its front movements, the Communists point to the Workers Alliance of America. It was created in 1936 and organized in practically every relief project in the country. It was apparently patterned after the unemployed councils of St. Petersburg, Russia, set up in 1906 as a part of the Communist front there, as the Council in Russia staged sit-down strikes, so also did the Alliance stage sit-down strikes in various State Legislatures and relief bureaus in our country. (HCUA report of 1-3-39, pages 72-74.)

The "Daily Worker" for 6-22-37, identified WEST as Communist Party Organizer for the State of Kentucky, who, on June 21, 1937, had attended a reception for MAUDE WHITE, the only Negro woman member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. This reception was held at the home of REVA GILBERT, identified by the Daily Worker as Organizational Secretary of the lower Harlem Communist Party, 2 West 120th Street, New York City.

[Confidential Informant T-12, on January 20, 1942, advised] that WEST had bragged to him about organizing a group of volunteers in Kentucky to serve in the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in the Spanish Civil War. WEST claimed to have recruited thirty members of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, and to have recruited several hundred dollars for the organization. (S)

The Communist Party was active in recruiting American boys for the so-called Abraham Lincoln Brigade, in behalf of Loyalist Spain. EARL BROWDER has boasted that sixty per cent of the Brigade was composed of Communist Party members. (HCUA report of 3-29-44, page 146.)

[Confidential Informant T-12, on January 8, 1942, advised] that WEST had admitted to him that he was one of the organizational founders of the Highland School, at Monteagle, Tennessee. (S)

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~~(S)~~  
 Confidential Informant T-17 has advised that between October 17, 1941 and March 10, 1942, the Highland Folk School MONTAGLE, TENN received the sum of \$500.00 from the Robert Marshall Foundation. The Robert Marshall Foundation is cited as follows: "This fund of more than one million dollars, which originated with the rich man's son whose name it bears, has been one of the principal sources of the money with which to finance the Communist Party's fronts, generally, in recent years. (HCUA report of 3-29-44, page 50.)"

~~(S)~~  
 Confidential Informant T-18 has identified WEST as a Communist Party member in the Ohio area in 1940.

### III. RECRUITING ACTIVITY

~~(S)~~  
 Confidential Informant T-12, on January 8, 1942, advised that in 1941 WEST asked him to become active in the labor movement, and indicated he hoped that informant would join the Communist Party. In January, 1941, WEST instructed informant in the operation of a printing press in order that informant would be able to operate this press if and when the Communist Party went underground.

According to informant, WEST sent him to New York City to attend a meeting of the American Peace Mobilization, on April 6 and 7, 1941. WEST also arranged for informant to attend the Highland Folk School for two weeks, in May, 1941.

On numerous occasions, in 1940 and 1941, WEST, in company with informant, visited the residence of HARDY LEE SCOTT, identified by informant as Secretary of the Communist Party of Georgia at that time. On several of these visits to SCOTT'S residence, WEST obtained Communist Party literature, which he turned over to informant.

The American Peace Mobilization was cited as "one of the most seditious organizations which ever operated in the United States, and an instrument of the Communist Party line prior to the Hitler attack on Russia." (HCUA report of 3-29-44, page 5)

### IV. POEMS BY SUBJECT SHOWING ADHERENCE TO PRINCIPALS OF MARXISM - LENINISM

The "Daily Worker" for March 13, 1934, on page 5, carried a poem by WEST, entitled "Listen, I Am a Communist". The "Atlanta Journal", on August 14, 1952, in story by CELESTINE

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~~CELESTINE~~ SIBLEY, quotes WEST as admitting that he had written this poem. This poem is set forth, verbatim, as follows:

LISTEN, I AM  
A COMMUNIST  
By DON WEST

I am a Communist  
A Red  
A Bolshevik!  
Do you, toilers of the South,  
Know me,  
Do you understand?  
Do you believe the lies  
Capitalists say  
And print about me?  
You farmers,  
Share croppers,  
Renters,  
Factory Workers,  
Negroes, poor whites,  
Do you understand me,  
Do you see  
That I am you.  
That I, the Communist,  
Am you--?

I am DON WEST, too,  
The poet,  
The working man.  
But the poet  
Is a cry for justice  
The Communist is the tempered soul  
Of a hundred million toilers  
Marching to victory  
A new world  
A working man's world! . . .

I am the son  
Of my grandfather.  
His blood pounds thru  
My veins, and cries out  
For justice!  
I am the poet  
Who sings to the south  
And she responds  
With sobs of misery"!

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

I'm not foreign  
No body  
With calloused hands  
Is foreign to us  
I'm DON WEST  
Raised on a Georgia farm -  
The son of my mother  
And a Communist . . .

That means  
I want bread  
And homes  
And clothes  
And love  
And beauty  
For all your hollow-eyed babies  
I want songs on the lips  
And joy in the eyes  
Of your anxious mothers  
Who scrub  
And hoe  
And weave in a factory.

You toil-hardened men and women,  
Whose backs are twisted  
Making profits for capitalists,  
I am building a new world--  
Yet not I,  
But you--  
WE!  
For we are the Communists  
We are the toilers. . .

Did you ever hear of the  
SOVIET UNION,  
Where our comrades  
Have laid their burdens down  
Have taken what was always theirs  
And dismissed the loafers,  
The Capitalists?. . .  
They are calling us  
To rise  
To organize  
To be free . . . .

And do you hear me?. . .  
I'm speaking,  
I, the poet,  
DON WEST  
Communist,

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~~SECRET~~

Bolshevik,  
Red . . . .  
Working man  
Southern toiler . . .  
You will hear me  
And you'll believe,  
Because I am you,  
You are me,  
And  
We--  
Are power!

V. OTHER ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNIST PARTY CONTACTS

[Confidential Informant T-19, on January 4, 1946, advised] ~~(S)~~ that on this date WEST was in contact with EARL BROWDER, then Secretary General of the Communist Party. On this occasion WEST was known to have visited BROWDER'S office, Room 702, 55 West 42nd Street, New York City.

Confidential Informant T-20, who has furnished both reliable and unreliable information concerning Communist Party activities, on December 30, 1943, advised that on December 29, 1943, WEST had called a meeting of the Communist Party in Atlanta, Georgia, at which time WEST informed the Party that he had been instructed by ROBERT F. ~~(S)~~ HALL, Communist Party Organizer, for District 17, Communist Party, USA, Birmingham, Alabama, to advise them that there was a spy in the Atlanta unit of the Party. At this meeting WEST stated that [redacted] was believed to be spying for the FBI, and was then being watched by the Communist Party. ~~(S)~~ b6  
b7C  
G-4

Confidential Informant T-20, on July 10, 1944, advised that as of this date WEST'S name appeared in the personal notebook of EUGENE ~~(S)~~ GORDON, identified by informant as an assistant editor of the Daily Worker. ~~(S)~~ G-4

[Confidential Informant T-21, on May 22, 1945, advised] ~~(S)~~ that WEST'S name appeared in a pamphlet entitled "Equal Justice Under Law", which was published by the Committee of Equal Justice, for Mrs. RECY ~~(S)~~ TAYLOR. According to informant, this committee was organized and sponsored by the Daily Worker. Mrs. RECY TAYLOR was identified as the Negro woman who had been raped by a white man, in Alabama.

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~~(S)~~ Confidential Informant T-22, on December 9, 1941, advised that on November 11, 1940, WEST spoke at the Ninth Street Baptist Church, Cincinnati, Ohio, at a meeting sponsored by the Cincinnati Youth Committee Against War. According to Informant, this speech followed the Communist Party line exclusively. Informant identified this organization as having been sponsored by the Communist Party of Cincinnati.

~~(S)~~ Confidential Informant T-23, on February 5, 1951, advised that on numerous occasions in 1950 and 1951, WEST was in contact with HARRY KOGER, of 110 W. Cypress Street, San Antonio, Texas. KOGER has been active in the sale and publication of WEST'S latest publication, "The Road is Rocky".

~~(S)~~ Confidential Informant T-2 has identified KOGER as Communist Party Organizer in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1940.

Confidential Informant T-24, on June 9, 1948, advised that on this date IRVING GOFF was a guest in the WEST home on the Oglethorpe University campus, in Atlanta, Georgia. The "Daily Worker" has identified GOFF as District Organizer for the Communist Party in New Orleans, Louisiana, as of 1948 ~~(S)~~

Confidential Informant T-24, on December 1, 1947, advised that on this date WEST was in contact with LEM HARRIS, concerning a document captioned "Memo on Democratic Reconstruction of Southern Agriculture". ~~(S)~~

~~(S)~~ T-16 has identified LEM HARRIS as the Secretary of the Farmers Commission, Communist Party, USA.

Confidential Informant T-24, on December 4, 1947, advised that on this date WEST was in contact with MARVIN SHAW. Confidential Informant T-25 identified SHAW as then National Student Secretary of the Communist Party. ~~(S)~~

Confidential Informant T-24, advised that WEST was in contact with WILLIAM STAFFORD, CIO, UPWA Organizer, on April 3, 5, 1947, and on April 26, 1947. ~~(S)~~

Confidential Informant T-25 has identified WILLIAM STAFFORD as a Communist Party member at that time, who was closely associated with HOMER BATES CHASE in the overall operation of the Communist Party of Georgia. ~~(S)~~

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[~~S~~] Confidential Informant T-26, on February 17, 1947, advised that on this date WEST was in contact with NATHAN and ANNA KATZ, at which time he presented to them a copy of his book, "Clods of Southern Earth".

[~~S~~] Confidential Informant T-25 has identified NATHAN and ANNA KATZ as long-time Communist Party members in the Atlanta area.

[~~S~~] Confidential Informant T-26, on March 7, 1947, advised that on this date WEST was in contact with NAT ROSS, MARY SOUTHARD, and HOMER BATES CHASE.

[~~S~~] Confidential Informant T-25 has identified ROSS as a brother-in-law of WEST, and one-time District Organizer for District #17, Communist Party, Chattanooga, Tennessee. According to informant, ROSS, in 1948 and 1949, was Southern Organizer for the Communist Party.

[~~S~~] Confidential Informant T-27, on October 20, 1949, identified MARY SOUTHARD as the Daily Worker correspondent for Atlanta, Georgia and Birmingham, Alabama.

[~~S~~] Confidential Informant T-28, on February 4, 1947, advised that on this date WEST was in contact with MAX WEISS.

[~~S~~] Confidential Informant T-25 has identified WEISS as a one-time member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, and as an editor of "Political Affairs".

("Political Affairs" has been cited as an official Communist Party monthly theoretical "organ". HCUA report #1920, dated 5-11-48, pages 5 and 6.)

[~~S~~] Confidential Informant T-28, on February 6 and 7, 1947, advised that on these dates WEST was in contact with HOMER BATES CHASE and MAX WEISS. T-28, on February 14 and 15, 1947, advised that on these dates WEST was in contact with NAT ROSS.

Confidential Informant T-20, who has furnished both reliable and unreliable information concerning Communist Party activities, on March 11, 1947, advised that on February 28, 1947 WEST had attended a meeting at the Butler Street YMCA, called "Georgia Crisis", which was sponsored by the Southern Negro Youth Congress. WEST was one of the twelve white people present, and was the principal speaker. WEST, in his speech of February 28, 1947, before this group, attacked pending Georgia legislation known as the "White Primary Bill". Informant quoted WEST as stating on this occasion, "You are not facing a yankee, you are looking

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at a Georgia "Cracker", whose family has never owned a slave. I am from a poor family from the mountains and I am in favor of a decent South. Yes, a South where all men are equal. I am fighting for the masses of the people, and I will not stop until all have justice." ~~(S)~~

The Southern Negro Youth Congress has been cited as subversive and among the affiliates and committees of the Communist Party, USA, which seeks to alter the form of Government of the United States by un-Constitutional means. (Attorney General TOM CLARKE'S letter to Loyalty Review Board, released 12-4-47.) ~~(S)~~

[Confidential Informant T-12, on January 8, 1942, advised] that WEST, in September, 1941, had spoken at a picnic sponsored by the "Smash Hitler Committee", of Atlanta. This picnic, according to informant, was arranged by NATHAN and ANNA KATZ.

[Confidential Informant T-25] ~~(S)~~ has identified NATHAN and ANNA KATZ as long-time Communist Party members in the Atlanta area.

~~(S)~~ [Confidential Informant T-29, a minister, advised on August 31, 1942,] that in 1940, during the Presidential campaign, exact date unknown, he and WEST had attended a Communist Party meeting together, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

[Confidential Informant T-8 has advised] ~~(S)~~ that following WEST'S return to his farm, in Douglas County, in the Summer of 1951, he obtained the services of HARDY LEE SCOTT, as a tenant farmer. Informant related that SCOTT remained on the WEST farm for approximately one year, being closely associated with WEST in various farming enterprises.

[Confidential Informant T-25] ~~(S)~~ has identified HARDY LEE SCOTT as one-time Secretary of the Communist Party of Georgia.

#### VI. CONNECTIONS WITH PEOPLES INSTITUTE OF APPLIED RELIGION

The Peoples Institute of Applied Religion has been cited as subversive and Communistic.

(Attorney General TOM CLARKE'S letter to Loyalty Review Board, released 6-1-48 and 9-21-48.)

[Confidential Informant T-30, on October 12, 1948, advised] ~~(S)~~ that Post Office Box 1178, Atlanta, Georgia, was rented in the name of the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion. Informant advised

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that WEST paid the rent on this box.

RALPH MCGILL, Editor of the Atlanta Constitution, in his column of July 7, 1948, identified WEST as a Committee Member from Georgia, in this organization, as of 1947.

The Chicago Sun, a Chicago daily newspaper, on August 10, 1945, carried a story on a revival meeting sponsored by the Chicago Council of Applied Religion, at 176 West Adams Street. WEST was identified as the principal speaker, and as an evangelist for the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion. The article stated that at that time WEST was the Principal of the Lula High School, Lula, Georgia.

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On August 8, 1941, Detective Sergeant [redacted] of the Memphis Police Department, advised SA C. E. PIPER that CLAUDE C. WILLIAMS, Director of the ~~Peoples Institute of Applied Religion~~, had, in his presence, on August 8, 1941, identified WEST as State Director of Georgia, for this organization.

#### VII. CONNECTIONS WITH THE SOUTHERN CONFERENCE FOR HUMAN WELFARE

This organization has been cited as a Communist front organization "which seeks to attract southern liberals on the basis of its seeming interest in the problems of the South, although its professed interest in human welfare is simply an expedient for larger aims serving the Soviet Union and its subservient Communist Party in the United States." (HCUA Report #592, of 6-12-47.)

Confidential Informant T-31, on November 4, 1942, advised that WEST was a delegate to the Southern Conference for Human Welfare conference which was held in Memphis, Tennessee, April 19-21, 1942. ~~(S)~~

Confidential Informant T-24, on December 29, 1947, advised that the Southern Conference for Human Welfare had paid WEST'S expenses to Chicago, Illinois, where he attended a conference of the Progressive Party. ~~(S)~~

#### VIII. CONNECTIONS WITH PROGRESSIVE PARTY OF GEORGIA

Confidential Informant T-25, on October 22, 1948, advised that the Progressive Party of Georgia was dominated and controlled by members of the Communist Party, and especially by WEST and HOMER BATES CHASE, known publicly as District Organizer, District 31, Communist Party, USA. ~~(S)~~

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Informant advised that WEST was in close association with the Progressive Party of Georgia during the period 1947-48, and was known to have been in constant contact with the following individuals, all of whom have been identified by Confidential Informant T-25 as active Communist Party members during that period: ANNIE MAE LEATHERS, MINNIE RUDINE, LEAH YOUNG, JACK LORENZ, ERNIE LEWIS, WILLIAM STAFFORD, EUDICE TONTAK, NATHAN and ANNA KATZ, and HENRY WALD. ~~(S)~~

Confidential Informant T-25 further advised that during this period WEST served as Executive Vice-Chairman of the Progressive Party of Georgia, and would have been this party's candidate for Governor, or U. S. Senator, had it not been for derogatory publicity concerning WEST which appeared in RALPH MCGILL'S column in the Atlanta Constitution. ~~(S)~~

The Atlanta Constitution, a daily newspaper, on February 10, 1948, carried a story reflecting that WEST had addressed the National Progressive Voters League of the Progressive Party, at Miami, Florida, on February 15-18, 1948.

Confidential Informant T-24 advised that on July 24, 1948, WEST attended a Progressive Party convention in Philadelphia. Also, that WEST had attended a Progressive Party convention at Chicago, Illinois on December 29, 1947. According to informant, WEST'S expenses to the Chicago convention were paid by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. ~~(S)~~

Confidential Informant T-24 advised that on May 20, 1948, WEST, who identified himself as Executive Vice-Chairman of the Peoples New Party of Georgia (Progressive Party of Georgia), spoke over Atlanta radio station WAGA. According to this informant, WILLIAM STAFFORD and EUDICE TONTAK, both of whom have been identified as active Communist Party members at that time by Confidential Informant T-25, had assisted in preparing the script for this speech. ~~(S)~~

WEST, in this speech, made the following statements: ~~(S)~~

"Our nation's policy in Palestine can only be laid to our support of the old futile Arab monarchy and laws in that region. - - - our country's birth-right through our joint giant oil corporation. - - - China the people are fighting for their independence from hated oppressors. They have put up a fight that the whole world admires. Are we supporting them as France and Russia and Spain supported us during our American Revolution? No. We are supporting the Dutch imperialist with American arms, and the French imperialist with American weapons and loans. In ~~(S)~~

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China we have been throwing billions of dollars down the drain to support one of the most corrupted dictatorships on the face of the earth. CHIANG KAI-SHEK Government is so corrupt that it is far from being able to defend its own interests and allows American arms to be sold to the Communist right off the Shanghai docks through the black market. Here we are being played for suckers which in no way makes our game any less dangerous for the American people. In Japan we have proceeded to bolster up the emperor and the nobility and to save from destruction Zi-bat-zu, the six wealthy families who own most of the Japanese industry. We make friends with the very people who caused Pearl Harbor. Is this the best memorial we can erect to thousands of Americans who died in the Pacific? These are not pleasant facts for Americans to face. We are proud of our country and like to think that it stands for truth and justice and democracy. It is time for the ordinary American people, the common people, to come to the rescue of America's honor while there is yet time. The people can demand that this drive to war be stopped. HENRY WALLACE in his open letter to Premier STALIN has advocated a peace conference between our two nations. Mr. WALLACE said the USA and the USSR must take immediate action to end the cold war. This involves taking definite decisive steps looking toward the following objectives: ~~(S)~~

"General reduction of armament. Outlawing all methods of mass destruction. Stopping the export of weapons by any nation to any other nation. The resumption of unrestricted trade except for goods related to war between the two countries. The free movement of citizens, students, and newspaper men between and within the two countries. The resumption of free exchange of scientific information and scientific materials between the two countries. The reestablishment of a reinvigorated United Nations or the Constitution of some other united nation agency for the distribution of international relief. Neither the USA nor the USSR should interfere in the internal affairs of other nations. Neither the USA nor the USSR should maintain military bases in other UN countries. Neither the USA nor the USSR should terrorize the citizens of the member states of the UN by matching land forces, establishing air bases, or making naval demonstrations. Neither the USA nor the USSR should use financial pressure, economic pressure or the pressure of secret agents to obtain political results in other countries. ~~(S)~~

"Both the USA and the USSR in the spirit of the United Nations Charter should collaborate to the limit in furthering the political, economic and cultural health of the world. To that end the USA and the USSR should join the various subsidiary ~~(S)~~

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agencies of the United Nations such as the World Health Organization, the Food and Agricultural Organization, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. We, the people of America, can demand that President Roosevelt and Secretary Marshall reversed our war policy and accept the offer to sit down at the conference table with Russia. We can urge our representatives in Congress to defeat the peace-time conscription measure. We must do this now for the time is running out. But there is today an alarmingly rapid drift in the direction of Fascism in our own country, and the closing down of democratic liberties in this country. In the House of Representatives an infinite bill called the Mundt-Nixon Bill has been introduced and was passed only yesterday. On the surface this is a bill to outlaw the Communist Party. In principal and even in wording it has been borrowed from the laws passed in Hitler-Germany passed in 1933. The purpose of the Mundt-Nixon Bill is to prevent any expression by the American people of their opposition to the war policies of the present administration. If you are a member of an organization which a Communist happens to join or which adopts a policy which happens to coincide more or less with some Communist policy as defined by the FBI, your name can be published as belonging to a Communist organization and you can be jailed for continuing such activities. If you are a union member and fight for a wage increase the FBI can say you are conspiring to disrupt trade in the United States with intent to further the objectives of the world Communist Movement and jail you and smash your union. If you believe in civil rights for all people you are guilty of inviting racial tension. It's all of this - the Attorney General is the final judge of what is to be considered Communist and he would have in his hand a weapon that HEINRICH HIMMLER could hardly have improved upon for killing off opposition to the administration. Because the American people are aware of the danger to our democratic system in this bill they have sent mass protests to the House of Representatives and to the Senate demanding that the measure be defeated. Such action has succeeded or did succeed in delaying the vote in the House, but we must still demand that our representatives vote against this bill. We must act now. Send a letter or telegram or telephone Senator RUSSELL or Senator GEORGE expressing your opposition to this intimate major which will destroy the freedom of all of us. Defeat the Mundt-Nixon Bill. ~~(S)~~

"The Mundt-Nixon Bill is one more step in the increasing tendency to fire men and women who have unpopular ideas or so-called dangerous thoughts. We have had here in Georgia recently a ~~(S)~~

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flagrant example of precisely this - Professor JAMES L. BARFOOT of the University of Georgia has been dismissed from his position at the University because he dared to have the courage to support Mr. WALLACE and to support actively the Peoples Progressive Party of Georgia. Mr. BARFOOT believes that the best provision he can make for his three children is to fight for a decent prosperous and peaceful world. For acting on his belief he was fired. This shameful act by the University of Georgia is a blot on the school and on the State. It is reminiscent of the purges conducted by EUGENE TALMADGE which action brought the entire University System close to being discredited. In Georgia TALMADGE and his backers are afraid of the people, when the white and Negro express unitedly their opinions at the polls. They will go to almost any length to prevent the citizens from exercising their Constitutional right to vote. A couple of weeks ago we saw the election board of Laurens County acting in entirely illegal conspiracy to deprive the majority of Negro voters in that county of their rights to vote. The white people of Georgia must realize that this is an attack on the rights of all of us. The corruptions of Georgia county elections is notorious and this is simply a county Jane trying to protect itself from being ousted by a righteous election. There will never be decent politics in this state until all the people can help make them. The big modern owned corporations that are breeding this state do so by keeping Georgians fighting other Georgians. The FBI is investigating this illegal action in Laurens County. Every citizen of Georgia who wants a clean and honest election system must demand that those Negro voters stricken from the registry be reinstated. We must demand that the Grand Jury of Laurens County and of any other county in which such purging occurs investigate and clean house. Fellow Georgians, these are some of the problems - - - The formation of a new party in this state and in the country. We believe that there are no problems that this country faces that cannot be solved peaceably if we will only tackle them with energy and common sense that are so much a part of the American way of doing things. We ask all of you who believe in the tradition of American democracy, in Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt to support the Peoples Progressive Party. To give us your time and to send us your contribution so that we can carry on our fight to bring it through to the people. We urge you to send your contributions to the Atlanta Wallace-for-President Committee, 85 Alexander Street, NW. Tomorrow night - Tomorrow night Mr. Wallace, himself, will speak on how we can bring an end to the cold war itself. On Saturday night, May 22, at 10:30 PM, the Peoples Progressive Party of Georgia invites all men and women no matter what their creed or color to come together with us to fight to make the promise of America really come true and to be a blessing not only to ourselves and our children, but to the whole world as well. We thank you.

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IX. CONNECTIONS WITH AMERICAN  
PEACE MOBILIZATION

[Confidential Informant T-22] has identified WEST as being in attendance at a meeting of the American Peace Mobilization, at Chicago, Illinois, on September 1-2, 1940.

[Confidential Informant T-12, on January 8, 1942, advised] that WEST had sent him to New York City, where he attended a meeting of American Peace Mobilization on April 6-7, 1941.

The American Peace Mobilization was formed in the Summer of 1940, under the auspices of the Communist Party and the Young Communist League, as a front organization, designed to mould American opinion against participation in the war against Germany. The most conspicuous activity of the group was the picketing of the White House, which began in April, 1941, in protest against Lend Lease and the National Defense Program. The picketing was suddenly called off on June 21, 1941, by FREDERICK V. FIELD, National Secretary. (Attorney General FRANCIS BIDDLE, Congressional Record dated 9-24-42, page 7684.)

MISCELLANEOUS

[Confidential Informants T-25 and T-32,] who are generally familiar with Communist Party activities in the State of Georgia, and who are personally acquainted with WEST, have advised that there is no indication that WEST is presently active in Communist Party activities.

[Confidential Informant T-33, on July 22, 1950, advised] that JAMES BARFOOT, former Progressive Party candidate for Governor of Georgia, had, on July 18, 1950, received a letter from WEST requesting him to address a large number of envelopes for the mailing out of "peace tracts", advocating the end of "senseless war in Korea".

Records of the Superior Court of Hall County, Gainesville, Georgia, reflect that on December 2, 1947, one CHARLIE LEWALLEN, of Hall County, filed suit against WEST for damages, claiming liable as a result of a poem appearing in WEST'S book, "Clods of Southern Earth". This case was heard on January 22, 1948, and was dismissed under a plea to the jury. Suit was not reinstituted.

Confidential Informant T-24, advised on February 11, 1948 that WEST had organized a local committee known as the Don West Defense Committee, Post Office Box 1178, Atlanta, Georgia.

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The purpose of this committee was to raise funds to defend the above law suit. [redacted] Atlanta school teacher, was [redacted] GA.

The "Daily Worker" for March 20, 1947, carried an article entitled, "Don West Benefit Performance Friday". The article reflected that a benefit performance was to be held on the following day, at the Solidarity Theater, 124 W. 124th Street, New York City, in order to raise money to help WEST defend a "trumped up liable" by reactionaries in the South.

The "Daily Worker" for March 17, 1947, contained an article captioned, "Writers Party to Aid Don West". According to this story, a party was to be held on March 28, 1947, at 110 W. 48th Street, by contemporary writers, and was described as the opening gun to defend DON WEST, "whose anti-Fascist activities in Georgia had brought down the wrath of Klansmen and other reactionaries".

The "Daily Worker", on May 18, 1947, carried a story captioned, "Committee Organized to Aid Fighting South". According to the article this committee was to raise funds to help striking tobacco workers in North Carolina, and to assist in the defense of DON WEST.

Confidential Informant T-27, on June 23, 1947, advised that the above committee was a paper front, organized and established by the Communist Party, for the purpose of raising funds to aid Communist Party work in the South.

Dr. [redacted] Martha Berry School, Rome, Georgia, on January 5, 1946, advised SA A. W. NEALE that WEST, while a student at this school, in 1926, had attempted to organize the students to strike. According to Dr. [redacted] this strike was based on the fact that the school was supported by what WEST termed "capitalists". (HENRY FORD money.)

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Confidential Informant T-8 has advised that WEST, since the summer of 1951, has received checks from AUBREY W. WILLIAMS, Head of the "Southern Farmer", a magazine published in Montgomery, Alabama. Informant reports that WEST has written numerous articles and columns for the "Southern Farmer", some of which had appeared under his true name. Informant related that WEST is in constant contact with AUBREY W. WILLIAMS.

Confidential Informant T-2 has advised that AUBREY WILLIAMS was at one time very active in the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. GA.

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[Confidential Informant T-12, on January 8, 1942, produced a clipping of an article by WEST which appeared in the "Southern News Almanac" on June 6, 1941. In this story, entitled "Awakening Church", WEST stated that he was against war; that the present war was a war of capitalists and imperialistic nations. According to informant, the "Southern News Almanac" was edited and published by SAM HALL, of Birmingham, Alabama, and ceased to exist in 1941.]

The "Daily Worker" for June 22, 1947, identified SAM HALL as a native southerner who was going forward as a Communist Party leader in the South. As of this date SAM HALL was identified as Chairman of the Carolina District of the Communist Party.

[Confidential Informant T-12 also furnished a newspaper clipping from the Pike County Journal, Zebulon, Georgia, July 4, 1941 issue, which contained a story by WEST entitled, "Defend Democratic Ideals". This article reflects that WEST urged the American people to have no sympathy for HITLER, and advocated all-out aid for the allies.]

[Confidential Informant T-34, on April 11, 1952, made available a copy of WEST'S book of poems entitled "Toil and Hunger". This publication was by the Hagglund Press, of San Benito, Texas, in 1940. On page 11 of the Prologue, WEST, in writing of himself, states as follows: "My real education has been beaten into me by the everlasting toil and hunger I have seen; by the struggles I have seen in textile and coal centers, where my people were toled down from the hills by fair promises of a better life. It is this education of life, of prisons and jails for innocent men, that determined a resolve never to seek to rise upon the shoulders of others, to rise only when the great masses of plain people rise in one big united wave, and we're going to rise."]

Informant also made available a small circular published by WEST, in 1944, at which time he was a candidate for the General Assembly from Hall County, in the State Primary of July 4, 1944. WEST, at the time, was Principal of the Lula Georgia High School. In this pamphlet he stated that at the outbreak of war he had volunteered for service with the Armed Forces, but was turned down because of two fingers missing on his left hand. He claimed that prior to that time he had served in the Merchant Marines, and also that he had completed major work necessary for a PhD Degree. In this pamphlet WEST pledged the following items:

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A greater unity for winning a complete, total and speedy victory over Fascism, and a just and everlasting peace.

WEST also pledged that if elected he would work for a liberal revision of the State Constitution, to meet everyday needs.

[Confidential Informant T-4 advised that as of March 29, 1952,] ~~(S)~~  
WEST had in his possession a new .38 caliber revolver, and two 12-gauge shotguns, and in exhibiting these weapons to informant, WEST stated he was prepared for the Ku Klux Klan, or anyone attempting to violate his rights.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

	<del>DESCRIPTION</del>
Name	DONALD LEE WEST, Was. Don West, Jim Weaver
Born	James Allen Weaver, [Jim Webb] <del>(S)</del> 6-6-08, Cartecay, Ga. (Gilmer County)
Height	6'2"
Weight	185 lbs.
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Scars & Marks	Two fingers missing from left hand
Peculiarities	Right eye does not always focus
Occupation	Self-employed; farmer, writer and poet
Marital Status	Married to MABEL CONSTANCE WEST, Nee MABEL ADAMS (Married at Middlesboro, Ky., 12-14-28)
Children	[redacted] (Age 19 - 1953) HEDDIE GRACE WEST (Age 14 - 1953)
Relatives:	Father - JAMES OLIVER WEST (Deceased) Mother - LILLY MULKEY AIKEN Rt. 2, Cartersville, Ga.
	Brother- [redacted] Atlanta, Ga.
	Brother- [redacted] [redacted] of North Ga. News a weekly paper at Blairsville, Georgia

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Relatives: (Cont'd)

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(Confidential Informant T-20, on April 15, 1943, advised SA [redacted] that [redacted] was member of C.P. as of 1943.)

Sister - [redacted]  
(Wife of BART LOGAN) GA,  
Whereabouts unknown.

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(Confidential Informant T-25, on August 14, 1942, advised SA [redacted] that BART LOGAN was one-time Secretary of the C.P. in North Carolina. CI T-2, on 10-17-51, advised SA [redacted] that [redacted] was active in the C.P. in 1937-41.)

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Sister - [redacted] Aka. [redacted]  
[redacted] wife of [redacted]  
(Confidential Informant T-25, on 8-14-52, advised SA [redacted] that [redacted] was a long-time C.P. member from N.C.)

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Sister - ELSIE ROSS, Was. Janet West Ross, Janet Weaver, Janet Cohn, Johnnie West Ross, wife of NAT ROSS. GA: RUSSIA  
(CI T-25, on 8-14-52, advised SA [redacted] that NAT ROSS was at one time a member of the Central Committee of the C.P., and served as C.P. representative in the South for several years. CI T-2 advised SA [redacted] on 10-17-51, that ELSIE ROSS, better known as JANET WEAVER, had been active in the C.P. since 1930 and at one time was Daily Worker correspondent in Moscow, Russia.)

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

SOURCE	DATE OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION	DATE REC'D.	AGENT TO WHOM FURN.	FILE WHERE LOCATED
T-1, Selective Service Records LDB #2 Batavia, Ohio				
T-2, PAUL CROUCH	Membership and positions held in 1934-37  C.P. Membership of HARRY KOGER	4-14-48	SA LEON PRIOR  Bulet to San Antonio in KOGER case, 6-22-48	100-559-278  100-559-402
T-3, Post Office Records Meansville, Ga.				
T-4, Post Office records Douglasville, Ga.				
T-5, Pretext Call to Home Mission Council of North America Chicago, Ill by SA [REDACTED]	Re. employment of WEST	8-30-51		100-559-43
T-6, Post Office Record Cartersville, Ga..				
T-7, Post Office Record Lula, Ga.	b6 b7C b7D			
T-8, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Health Status & employment	Feb. 1953	Sas C. DALLAS MOBLEY & ALDEN F. MILLER (Orally)	This report

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AT, 100-559

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SOURCE	DATE OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION	DATE REC'D.	AGENT TO WHOM FURN.	FILE WHERE LOCATED
T-9, [redacted] [redacted]	Re Passport issued 5-18-31	6-25-47	SA [redacted] [redacted]	100-559-164
T-10, Anonymous source known to SA [redacted] [redacted] and SA [redacted] [redacted]	1947 C.P. Membership card in records of HOMER BATES CHASE	4-28-47	b6 b7C	100-559-152
T-11, [redacted] [redacted]	C.P. Membership 1934 b6 b7C b7D		[redacted]	
T-12, [redacted] [redacted] (Now deceased)	C.P. Membership and activities of WEST in general	1-8-42	[redacted] (Orally)	100-559-49 b6 b7C
(S) [redacted] b2 b7D	Highland Folk School	1-8-42	"	"
	Re. Abraham Lincoln Brigade	1-20-42	"	" b6 b7C b7D
T-13, [redacted]	C.P. Membership, 1945	7-29-48	SA J. T. McCARTHY (Orally)	100-559-311
T-14, [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]	C.P. Membership b6 b7C	4-23-51	SA [redacted] [redacted] (Orally)	100-559-401
T-15, [redacted] [redacted]	C.P. Membership	8-28-50 b6 b7C	SA [redacted] [redacted] JR.	100-559-381
T-16, [redacted] [redacted]	C.P. Membership	6-10-49	SA [redacted] [redacted] JR.	100-559-401
T-17, Bank records, Bank of Sewanee, Tenn. made available by KX informant [redacted]	Re Highland Folk School	7-2-42	SA [redacted] [redacted] b6 b7C	100-804-6

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AGENT TO WHOM FURNISHED	FILE WHERE LOCATED
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SOURCE

DATE OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION

DATE REC'D.

T-18. [redacted] C.P. Membership,  
[redacted] Ohio area, 1940

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b7C  
b7D

100-559-94

T-19, Physical Contact with EARL  
Surveillance of BROWDER  
subject on 1-4-46  
by SAs F.J. GALLANT,  
[redacted]

b6  
b7C

T-20, Former C.P. Meeting  
Atlanta Informant Atlanta, 1943,  
[redacted] re spy in unit

b2  
b7D

Name in GORDON'S  
Notebook, July,  
1944

12-30-43  
(Orally)

b6  
b7C

SA [redacted] 100-559-94

7-10-44  
(Orally)

SA [redacted] 100-559-97

Re WEST'S appearance  
at SNYC, 2-28-47

3-11-47  
(Orally)

SA [redacted] 100-559-140

T-21, N.Y.  
informant [redacted]

b2  
b7D

Name in pamphlet of  
Committee for Mrs.  
RECY TAYLOR

5-22-45  
(Orally)

SA [redacted] 100-3985

T-22, Cincinnati  
Informant [redacted]

b2  
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C.P. Activities.  
1940

12-9-41

SA S. H.  
HORTON

100-559-67

T-23. [redacted]  
[redacted] 1950-51 contacts with  
[redacted] Texas C.P. member

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2-5-51  
(Orally)

SA MILES L.  
JOHNSON

100-559-439

[redacted] San  
Antonio, Texas

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SOURCE	DATE OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION	DATE REC'D.	AGENT TO WHOM FURNISHED	FILE WHERE LOCATED
T-24, AT-1324	4/3,5,26/47 12-1-47 12-4-47 12-29-47 2-11-48 5-20-48 6-9-48 7-24-48	4/3,5,26/47  12-4-47 12-29-47 2-11-48 5-20-48 6-9-48 7-24-48	      b6 b7C	100-559-217 100-559-218 100-559-219 100-559-220 100-559-263 100-559-280 100-559-280
(S) T-25. [redacted] b2 b7D	Re WILLIAM STAFFORD	4-26-47	SA [redacted] (Orally)	100-559-160
	Re NATHAN and ANNA KATZ	2-15-47	"	100-559-140
	Re NAT ROSS	3-7-47	"	100-559-135
T-26, Physical surveillance by SAs GEORGE P. DILLARD and PAT RICE	Contacts with NATHAN and ANNA KATZ on 2-17-47	2-17-47		100-559-140
	Contact with NAT ROSS MARY SOUTHARD and CHASE on 3-7-47	3-7-47		100-559-135
T-27, NY Informant [redacted] b2 b7D	Re Committee to Aid Fighting South	6-23-47	SA F. J. SMITH	100-559-171
T-28, Physical surveillance by SAs DILLARD and [redacted] b6 b7C	Contact with MAX WEISS on 2-4-47	2-4-47		100-559-135
	Contact with CHASE and WEISS on 2/6,7/47	2/6,7/47		100-559-137
	Contact by NAT ROSS 2/14,15/47	2/14,15/47		100-559-137
T-29, [redacted] [redacted] b6 b7C	Attended C.P. Meeting, Cincinnati, 1940	8-31-42	SA [redacted] [redacted] b6 b7C	100-559-74

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AT, 100-559

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DATE OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION

DATE REC'D.

AGENT TO WHOM FURNISHED

FILE WHERE LOCATED

SOURCE

T-30.

Atlanta P.O.

Re P.O. Box 1178  
rented for PIAR

10-12-48

SA

100-559-316

(Orally)

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~~T-31, Anonymous source,  
known to SA JOHN L. ROBERTS~~

Attendance at 1942  
SCHW meeting  
Memphis, Tenn.

11-4-42

T-32.

Re present activity  
b2  
b7D

3-26-53

SA C.  
DALLAS  
MOBLEY

This report

T-33.

(Deceased)

b6  
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b7D

Re mailing of peace  
tracts

7-22-50

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SA

100-559-138

T-34.

Brookhaven,  
Ga.

Re WEST'S general  
activities, including  
possession of firearms

4-11-52

SA MOBLEY  
SA ALDEN  
F. MILLER  
(Orally)

100-559-469

REFERENCE: Bureau letter 6-25-52.

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SECURITY INFORMATION -

CONFIDENTIAL

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: November 23, 1953

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

REGISTERED MAIL

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

WEST is a security index subject in this division. This file in the Atlanta Office has been reopened and reviewed and no pertinent data has been obtained therein since the submission of a closing summary report on 4-21-53.

Reference is made to Atlanta letter of 10-27-53 captioned Communist Party, USA, Legislative Activity, Internal Security - C, (Georgia State Anti-Subversive Law), wherein authorization was requested to interview WEST prior to any testimony by WEST before the proposed State Legislative Internal Security Committee, which is expected to be set up at the November Session of the Georgia General Assembly.

By letter dated November 10, 1953, the Bureau authorized the interview of WEST. This will be done in accordance with existing Bureau instructions and the results will be reported in the immediate future. This file is in a pending status in the Atlanta Division.

CDM:sib/iat

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

RECORDED - 82

100-20396

NOV 27 1953

EX-102

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/PSK  
ON 3/18/82

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF  
DATE 5/25/82

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~ AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE

DATE 10-01-2010

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - - - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Director, FBI (100-3-70) ~~SECRET~~ DATE: October 27, 1953FROM: SAC, Atlanta (100-4447) ~~SECRET~~ ATTN: Asst. Director BELMONTSUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
(GEORGIA STATE ANTI-SUBVERSIVE LAW)REGISTERED MAIL

ReBulet 10-22-53.

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/BSKReason: 1-3.1.2.2Date of Review 4/12/924/12/82

The individual at Columbus, Georgia identified by PAUL CROUCH is [redacted] who in 1940 broke with the Communist Party, and was the author of a series of newspaper articles in Atlanta, Georgia concerning Communist Party activity. [redacted] was interviewed and furnished a signed statement on October 7, 1949. Information from [redacted] has been furnished the Bureau, by report of SA GEORGE C. BURTON, dated February 1, 1940, at Atlanta, and captioned "COMMUNIST PARTY IN COLUMBUS, GEORGIA AND PHENIX CITY, ALABAMA". The file reference is #100-3-33.

LAMAR SIZEMORE, Assistant Attorney General, State of Georgia, and GEORGE DILLARD, former FBI Agent who is employed by the State of Georgia, on October 25, 1953, furnished SA C. DALLAS MOBLEY, of this office, a copy of their report to the Governor, which is dated October 23, 1953. SIZEMORE'S report was delivered to the Governor on the night of October 25, 1953 and, according to SIZEMORE, Governor TALMADGE may, at an early date, make a press release concerning this report. Atlanta Airtel of October 24, 1953, captioned as above, informed the Bureau of this action by SIZEMORE. Attached, for the Bureau's information, is one copy of SIZEMORE'S report, which contains an

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

CDM/ds

c/c 100-4067 [redacted]  
" 100-4010 (Nathan Katz)  
" 100-3841 (Henry Wald)  
" 100-1409 (Enos Wicher)  
" 100-5128 (Subversive Activities, U. of Ga.)  
" 100-5190 (Murray Branch)  
" 100-4426 (Dr. Lawrence Reddick)  
" 100-401 (Annie Mae Leathers)  
" 100-430 [redacted]  
" 100-559 (Don West)  
" 100-5144 (Atlanta Peace Council)  
" 100-4714 (ACP)  
" Washington Field [redacted] (Paul Crouch)

Enclosures to Bureau: (1 copy SIZEMORE report) (2 Newspaper clippings)

Z-356

DEC 9 1953

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECRET~~

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-3-33-1

100-20376-  
NOT RECORDED  
102 NOV 27 1953

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE SP-1 GSK/BSK

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appendix on State Statutes dealing with subversion.

A review of the SIZEMORE report clearly indicates that SIZEMORE and DILLARD are prepared to take over and operate a legislative investigating committee, which will be created under a pending resolution at the next session of the Georgia Legislature, which is scheduled for November 16, 1953. A review of the SIZEMORE report would indicate they are laying the groundwork to call before the Committee certain professors in the State University System, as hereinafter mentioned, and local Communist Party members or sympathizers who are connected with Atlanta's only peace group, the Atlanta Peace Council.

Pursuant to Bureau instructions, this office has endeavored to maintain liaison with SIZEMORE, in conformity with Bureau letter of May 19, 1953.

GEORGE DILLARD, on October 26, 1953, was asked to identify individuals that will be called before the above mentioned legislative committee. DILLARD states that all plans in this respect are tentative, and that as soon as definite conclusions are reached, this office will be fully advised. According to DILLARD, they now contemplate calling the following individuals:

(1) PAUL CROUCH - Washington, D. C.

SIZEMORE and DILLARD have conferred with CROUCH, and will use this individual in the event he is available in November. Should he be engaged elsewhere, they may use his deposition.

(2) LOUIS F. BUDENZ

In the event CROUCH is not available, and a live expert or witness is desired, BUDENZ may be asked to appear and testify. It is not known whether SIZEMORE or DILLARD have discussed this with BUDENZ, but it is believed they have corresponded with him.

(3) [ ] - (Atlanta File #100-4067 -- Bufile 100-354570)

[ ] an Atlanta Negro, has been interviewed by this office. While he did not actually admit Communist Party membership, he admitted association with HOMER BATES CHASE, former C.P. organizer, and his attendance at a Communist Party school at Camp Beacon, New York, in 1946 or 1947. [ ] has claimed that he participated under the belief that this activity was part

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AT, 100-4447

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of UNAVA. The Atlanta file on [ ] is closed. GEORGE DILLARD has advised that they have interviewed [ ] and he has furnished some information as above, but has denied actual Communist Party membership. DILLARD states that [ ] testimony would be used as predication for calling Dr. [ ] Atlanta [ ]

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(4) DR. [ ] - (Atlanta File 100-4038 - Bufile 100-311873)

[ ] is presently the subject of a pending security case, and has not been interviewed by the FBI. He has been identified as a one-time Communist Party member, and was a close associate of HOMER BATES CHASE, former C.P. Organizer, from about 1947 until August, 1950. We have developed no information reflecting C.P. activity by [ ] since August, 1950. He is currently a [ ] known as the "One Hundred Dollar a Month Pension Club", and is known to have disseminated propaganda paralleling the Communist Party line in the past.

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(5) NATHAN KATZ - (Atlanta File 100-4010 - Bufile 100-46430)

KATZ has not been interviewed by the FBI, and no active investigation concerning him has been conducted since 1950. KATZ was, according to the records of Homer Bates Chase, former C.P. Organizer, a member as late as 1949. He has a long Communist Party history, going back to 1945. LAMAR SIZEMORE advises that they have interviewed KATZ, who denies current Communist Party membership, but who admitted membership in the past. SIZEMORE claims KATZ has refused to identify individuals associated with him. They have also interviewed ANNA KATZ, wife of NATHAN KATZ, who has a long Communist Party history.

(6) HENRY WALD - (Atlanta File 100-3841 - Bufile 100-280571)

WALD, a Security Index Subject of the Atlanta Division, has been interviewed. He has denied Communist Party membership, but has admitted participation in the Progressive Party Movement in Georgia, in 1948-49. The Bureau file will reflect that WALD is carried as a C.P. Member, by CHASE, as late as 1949.

GEORGE DILLARD states that they plan, through WALD'S testimony, to show a picture of the Progressive Party of Georgia in 1947-48, and possibly IWO activity in the State of Georgia during the same period, and prior thereto.

(7) ENOS WICHER - (Atlanta File 65-1409 - Bufile 100-135901)

WICHER is a Security Index subject of the Atlanta Division, and is employed as a Physics Professor by the University of Georgia,

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Atlanta Division. WICHER was interviewed in connection with the Bureau's investigation of FLORA DON WOVSCHIN; who was identified by Bureau sources as a Russian agent. WICHER has admitted to an Army Security Board past Communist Party history. He and his wife, MARIA WOVSCHIN WICHER, have both been identified as one-time Russian agents by a Bureau source.

(8) DON WEST - (Atlanta File 100-559 - Bufile 100-20396)

WEST is a Security Index subject of the Atlanta Division, and has not been interviewed by the FBI. He has a long Communist Party history, and is known generally to the public in the State of Georgia, as a one-time Communist Party member. He has a long Communist Party history, and his Party membership can be documented to the Daily Worker. He was active in the Progressive Party of Georgia in 1948-49, and was an associate of HOMER BATES CHASE, former Communist Party Organizer. We have developed no current Communist Party activity on his part since 1950.

GEORGE DILLARD has advised that the State has not interviewed DON WEST, however they are considering such action. Since he is known publicly in Georgia as a one-time Communist Party member, he will more than likely be called. Further, that CROUCH will no doubt identify WEST in his testimony.

(9) ANNIE MAE LEATHERS - (Atlanta File #100-401)

This individual is a Security Index subject of the Atlanta Division. She has not been interviewed by the FBI, and is one of three LEATHERS sisters who are known to be currently loyal to the Communist Party. ANNIE MAE LEATHERS has a long Communist Party history, and is presently active in the operation of the Atlanta Peace Council, an affiliate of the American Peace Crusade. The three LEATHERS sisters, together with [redacted] who is married to LEAH LEATHERS YOUNG, were the originators of this Atlanta group, and completely control their activities. ANNIE MAE LEATHERS is generally known to the Atlanta public as a Communist Party member, and her activities are covered through Atlanta informant [redacted]

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(10) [redacted] - (Atlanta File 100-430)

[redacted] is the husband of LEAH YOUNG, one of the three LEATHERS sisters. He has been identified in the past as a Communist sympathizer, and a Socialist. His first wife, [redacted] was a one-time Communist Party Elector in the State of Georgia, in the early thirties. [redacted] is a current subscriber to the

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AT, 100-4447

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"Daily Worker", and is the Chairman of the Atlanta Peace Council, as above mentioned. [redacted] has never been interviewed by the FBI. b6 b7C

(11) DR. LAWRENCE REDDICK - (Atlanta File 100-4426)

REDDICK, a Negro, is the Librarian at the Atlanta University, a Negro institution. He has never been interviewed by the FBI. REDDICK was once discharged as a librarian by the City of New York, for Communist Party activity. The Atlanta Office has never been able to prove Communist Party activity in Georgia by this individual. The State has not interviewed REDDICK.

(12) Professor G. MURRAY BRANCH - (Atlanta File 100-5190 -)

This individual is a Negro, and a professor at Morehouse College. He has never been interviewed by the FBI, and has not been the subject of a security investigation by this office. The Atlanta indices reflect that BRANCH was active in the Progressive Party of Georgia, during 1947-48. His name is frequently mentioned in the "Daily Worker" as a sponsor or signer of various peace petitions. The "Daily Worker", on October 1, 1953, listed BRANCH as one of 99 individuals who sponsored a national conference to repeal the Walter McCarran Law, as announced by the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born. The "Daily Worker" for July 8, 1953, also identified BRANCH as an endorser of the statement by officers of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, condemning the Justice Department's move with respect to registration with the Subversive Activities Control Board by this organization.

BRANCH was once affiliated with the Southern Negro Youth Conference, which has been cited.

The "Daily Worker", on April 7, 1950, carried an article on the Mid-Century Conference for Peace, at Chicago, May 29, 1950. Chicago informant [redacted] identified BRANCH as a sponsor of this peace group. BRANCH was also identified by New York informant ND 425 as appearing on the list of prominent Americans endorsing the World Peace Appeal, this list being released by the Peace Information Center, New York City, under date of August 14, 1950. BRANCH, according to information from CIC, Third Army, was a sponsor of the American Peace Crusade, and also protested the North Atlantic Pact. The "Daily Worker" for March 21, 1952, identified 39 more notables who urged negotiations in Germany. MURRAY BRANCH was included in this group. The Atlanta files contain no information indicating current or past Communist Party membership in Georgia for BRANCH. The State has not interviewed BRANCH. b2 b7D

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AT, 100-4447

(13) [ ] - Columbus, Georgia

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[ ] was identified as the individual who exposed the Communist Party at Columbus, Georgia in newspaper articles in 1940, as identified by PAUL CROUCH. [ ] has not been interviewed by the FBI since 1949. GEORGE DILLARD indicates that they may use [ ] as a witness, and may interview him at an early date.

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(14) Professor [ ]

This individual is employed by the University of Georgia, at Athens, Georgia. He is referred to in Atlanta letter of July 27, 1953, captioned "INDIVIDUALS CONNECTED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA ALLEGED TO BE COMMUNISTICALLY INCLINED; MRS. JULIUS TALMADGE, INFORMANT"; Atlanta File 100-5128, Bufile 100-356380.

[ ] according to Atlanta file, has never been interviewed by the FBI. He was the subject of a Loyalty of Government Employees investigation in 1948, while employed by the Veterans Administration, Memphis, Tennessee. The principal information developed on [ ] was that he had taught at the Abraham Lincoln School, in Chicago, in 1945. [ ] has never been investigated by the Atlanta Division, and the outcome of the above loyalty investigation is unknown. This individual has not been interviewed by State authorities.

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(15) RUBIN GOTESKY - (Atlanta 100-5128; Bufile unknown)

GOTESKY is a Professor at the University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia. He has never been interviewed as a subject by the Atlanta Office. He has been interviewed as a reference or associate in a loyalty case, but has never been questioned concerning his past Communist Party activity. The Atlanta Office has never conducted a security investigation on GOTESKY.

According to information furnished by the Bureau, in letter dated July 3, 1953, concerning individuals at the University of Georgia, Bureau file 100-356380, GOTESKY was once a Communist Party member, who was active in the Socialist Workers Party, but who broke with these groups and testified before the Rapp-Coudert Committee.

Both GEORGE DILLARD and LAMAR SIZEMORE, on October 25, 1953, stated that they would notify the Atlanta Office in advance of calling any witness before the proposed legislative committee.

Pursuant to Bureau instructions in referenced letter of October 22, 1953, the Atlanta Office will immediately interview [ ] at Columbus, Georgia, who was identified by

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AT, 100-4447

CROUCH as having exposed the Communist Party in 1940.

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In view of the proposed action by the State of Georgia, with reference to testimony from the above listed individuals, it is recommended that the Bureau authorize the Atlanta Office to immediately interview the following individuals, none of whom have been recently interviewed:

1. NATHAN KATZ
2. DON WEST
3. LAWRENCE REDDICK
4. [REDACTED]
5. RUBIN GOTESKY
6. MURRAY BRANCH
7. DR. [REDACTED]

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It is not recommended that we interview, at this time, ANNIE MAE LEATHERS and [REDACTED] unless the Bureau otherwise instructs. These two individuals are presently active in operating the Atlanta Peace Council. Information concerning the Atlanta Peace Council, an affiliate of the American Peace Crusade, is set forth in the report of SA C. DALLAS MOBLEY, 7-31-53, at Atlanta, captioned "AMERICAN PEACE CRUSADE", Bureau file 100-377391.

Atlanta Security Informant [REDACTED] of known reliability, a [REDACTED] of ANNIE MAE LEATHERS, has advised that ANNIE MAE LEATHERS and [REDACTED] would both be hostile toward an interview with the FBI, and would not admit Communist Party activity. ~~(S)~~

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This recommendation is further based on the fact that this office has coverage on ANNIE MAE LEATHERS, [REDACTED] and the Atlanta Peace Council through the above mentioned Security Informant, and one Potential Security Informant, [REDACTED]. The activities of the Atlanta Peace Council to date consist of:

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- (1) Attending the Peace Lobby in Washington, D. C., in June, 1953.
- (2) Selling subscriptions to the "Peace Reporter", a publication of the American Peace Crusade.
- (3) Holding small meetings, on a weekly basis, in one of the slum areas of the City of Atlanta, where the LEATHERS family resides.
- (4) The membership is estimated at approximately ten or twelve people, all of whom are known to this office.

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AT, 100-4447

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They have sold an estimated 100 subscriptions to the above paper, and are reported to have approximately \$30.00 in their treasury. ~~(S)~~

- (5) They are attempting to raise money in the above manner in order to attend an American Peace Crusade meeting in New York City, in November, 1953.
- ~~(S)~~ (6) This group has failed to even receive newspaper publicity in Atlanta. They have made no known efforts to recruit anyone into the Communist Party. ~~(S)~~
- (7) The Communist influence on this group is known to be confined to its organizers, and officers, who are ANNIE MAE LEATHERS, [REDACTED] LEAH YOUNG, the three LEATHERS sisters; and [REDACTED] above identified.

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GEORGE DILLARD advises that in the event ANNIE MAE LEATHERS and [REDACTED] are subpoenaed and appear, they expect a small demonstration by this group, for publicity reasons.

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The Washington Field Office is requested to reinterview PAUL CROUCH, and to determine from him what testimony he will give in the event he appears as above mentioned.

No recommendation is being made by the Atlanta Division for an interview with Mr. BUDENZ, as a proposed witness before this committee, inasmuch as his official status and position with respect to furnishing information is not known to the Atlanta Office. An interview with Mr. BUDENZ in this respect should be considered by the Bureau.

ADDENDUM:

Enclosed are newspaper clippings from the Atlanta Constitution, of October 27, 1953, concerning Governor TALMADGE'S press release. The former Communist fellow travelers and Communist sympathizers, who are alleged by TALMADGE to be holding high positions of authority in Georgia, are the above mentioned professors employed by the University System.

Confidential Source [REDACTED] advised on October 27, 1953, that both Atlanta newspapers would oppose the creation of the above mentioned legislative committee.

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BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile: 100-20396

Atlanta Field Division

~~SECRET~~ 8/10/53

Date

Title and Character of Case: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/RSK  
Reason: FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
Date of Review 2/21/92

3/3/82

Date Property Acquired: 11/22/48

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Source From Which Property Acquired: 1A jacket of file

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit: Bulky Exhibit Cabinet

Reason for Retention of Property and  
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same: Record, evidence and investigative aid

Description of Property or Exhibit and  
Identity of Agent Submitting Same: Exhibits 1A1 through 1A22

1. Mail tracings
2. Letter dated 9/12/41 to "Dear Friend Don" and signed "Harold"
3. Signed statement of JOEL MATHEWS, dated 1/8/42
4. Letter signed "Don", See Ser. 79 (destroyed of no value 7/10/52)
5. Excerpts from speech of D. L. WEST, Supt., Lula High School
6. Lula High School "The Scrapper", containing photo of DONALD L. WEST
7. Specimen of handwriting of DONALD L. WEST on photostat of application for license
8. Photos of DONALD L. WEST
9. Campaign literature
10. Readers Scope Magazine, see P. 40 (Article on D. WEST)
11. Folder, "Georgia's Crisis", mimeographed letter on letterhead of 1948 Student committee, Atlanta, Ga., advertisement for book "Clods of Southern Earth" by DON WEST
12. CP Membership Card #96,336 for JIM WEBB
13. Photostatic copy of pamphlet, "The Voice of the Fighting South" and statement of purpose and objectives Committee to Aid the Fighting South
14. Photo of [redacted]
15. Rough drawings of 5 checks payable to DON WEST, Defense Committee (destroyed 7/10/52)
16. Photos of IRVING GOFF with D. L. WEST, Terminal Station, 6/10/48
17. Photos of WEST, PRICE and STAFFORD taken 3/26/48 and profile photo of WEST.
18. Mail tracings 8/48 (destroyed 7/10/52)
19. Photostatic copy of P. 5 of "The Daily Worker" for 6/22/47
20. Photo of DON WEST from 1948 Oglethorpe University Year Book
21. Photostats of Teachers records for MABEL CONSTANCE WEST at DeKalb County Board of Education
22. Photostats of drivers license applications for DON WEST and MABEL ADAMS WEST and photostat of signatures

100-559

3 - Bureau SEP 1 1948 235  
2 - Atlanta

~~SECRET~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF [redacted]  
DATE 5/25/82

NOT RECORDED  
29 AUG 21 1948

(9-17-53)  
BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile: 100-20396

54-

Atlanta

Field Division

8/10/53

Date

Title and Character of Case:

DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

Date Property Acquired:

1/1/52

Source From Which Property Acquired:

San Antonio Field Office

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit:

Bulky Exhibit Cabinet

Reason for Retention of Property and  
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same:

Evidence

Description of Property or Exhibit and  
Identity of Agent Submitting Same:

One copy of book entitled "The Road is Rocky" by DON WEST

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/9/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BSK

100 70 576  
NOT RECORDED  
28 AUG 21 1953

Field File #

52 SEP 4 1953

3 - Bureau  
2 - Atlanta

BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile: 100-20396

SAC Atlanta

Field Division

8/10/53

Date

Title and Character of Case:

DONALD LEE WEST  
IS-C

Date Property Acquired:

5/12/48

Source From Which Property Acquired:

Georgia State Board of Education  
Atlanta, Ga.

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit:

Bulky Exhibit Cabinet

b6  
b7C

Reason for Retention of Property and  
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same:

Record

Description of Property or Exhibit and  
Identity of Agent Submitting Same:

SA

Photostatic copy of complete file on MABEL C. ADAMS WEST at Teachers  
Certificate Section, Georgia Department of Education

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

NOT RECORDED  
29 AUG 21 1953

Field File #: 100-559

SEP 4 1953  
Atlanta

BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile: 100-20396

Atlanta

Field Division

8/10/53

Date

Title and Character of Case: DONALD LEE WEST  
IS-C

Date Property Acquired: 2/17/42

Source From Which Property Acquired: Various informants

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit: Bulky Exhibit Cabinet

Reason for Retention of Property and Evidence  
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same:

Description of Property or Exhibit and  
Identity of Agent Submitting Same:

SA

b6  
b7C

Book of poems entitled "Crab Grass" by DONALD LEE WEST  
Pamphlet entitled "A Christian Fellowship Message" by Rev. DONALD L. WEST  
Booklet entitled "Songs for Southern Workers" prepared by DON WEST  
Copy of pamphlet entitled "The Span" April and May 1941 issue  
March, April and May 1941 issues of "The Country Parson"

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

NOT RECORDED  
29 AUG 21 1953

Field File #: 100-559

3 - Bureau

SEP 4 1953

FD  
(7-17)

BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile: 100-20396

SAC Atlanta

Field Division

8/10/53 Date

Title and Character of Case: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

Date Property Acquired: 7/26/48

Source From Which Property Acquired: Surveillance

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit: Bulky Exhibit Cabinet

Reason for Retention of Property and  
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same:

Record, investigative aid, possible  
use as evidence

Description of Property or Exhibit and  
Identity of Agent Submitting Same:

SA

b6  
b7C

One partial roll of 16 mm film pertaining to above subject

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

100 - 20396  
NOT RECORDED  
AUG 21 1953

Field File #: 100-559

3- Bureau  
2- Atlanta

52 SEP 4 1953

BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile: 100-20396

SA Atlanta

Field Division

8/10/53

Date

Title and Character of Case: DONALD L. WEST  
IS-C

Date Property Acquired: 6/24/41

Source From Which Property Acquired: HOYT W. BROWN, Brunswick, Ga.

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit: Bulky Exhibit Cabinet

Reason for Retention of Property and  
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same: Evidence

Description of Property or Exhibit and  
Identity of Agent Submitting Same:

SA

b6  
b7C

One issue of the book "Toil and Hunger", poems by DON WEST  
Issues of "The Country Parson"  
One issue of "The Southern News Almanac"

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

100-20396-1  
NOT RECORDED  
29 AUG 21 1953

F. W. H. K.

Field File #: 100-559

3 - Bureau  
2 - Atlanta

SEP 4 1953

BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile: 100-20396

570-17  
Atlanta

Field Division

8/10/53

Date

Title and Character of Case: DONALD LEE WEST  
IS-C

Date Property Acquired: 5/25/48

Source From Which Property Acquired: Asst. Sol. [REDACTED]  
Fulton County Court House

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit: Bulky Exhibit Cabinet

Reason for Retention of Property and  
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same: Evidence

b6  
b7C

Description of Property or Exhibit and  
Identity of Agent Submitting Same: SA GEORGE P. DILLARD

b6  
b7C

Writings and literature of DON WEST secured about 1934 by Asst. Sol.  
[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

100-20396 ✓  
NOT RECORDED  
29 AUG 21 1953  
F-116074

Field File #: 100-559

3 - Bureau  
2 - Atlanta

58 SEP 4 1953

BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile: 100-20396

Atlanta Field Division

8/10/53 Date

Title and Character of Case: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

Date Property Acquired: 8/7/48

Source From Which Property Acquired: New York Div.

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit: Bulky Exhibit Cabinet

Reason for Retention of Property and  
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same: Evidence

Description of Property or Exhibit and  
Identity of Agent Submitting Same:

Photostats of pages of "The Daily Worker" for dates indicated:

March 13, 1934, P. 5  
June 11, 1934, P. 1 & 2  
June 19, 1934, P. 1  
November 1, 1935, P. 7  
July 20, 1936, P. 1 & 2  
October 5, 1936, P. 5

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

100-20396  
NOT RECORDED  
25 AUG 21 1953

Field File #: 100-559

3 - Bureau  
58 SEP 24 1953  
24 - Atlanta

File No.: 146-7-1170  
100-20396

Name: DONALD WEST

Office of Origin: Atlanta

Address:

Born (Country & Date): U. S., 6/6/08

If Naturalized

Occupation: Unemployed

(a) Year :

Employer:

(b) Prior Nationality:

If Alien, Nationality:

Last Report Reviewed: 12-4-51  
5-4-51 (S)

Last Activity:

Organizations:

Activities:

FBI STATISTICAL SECTION

MAY 11 9 29 AM '53

Card Filed  
Hew

CARDS PREPARED

BUREAU ADDENDUM:

Enclosure to memorandum dated  
4-17-53, from the AAG in Charge  
of the Criminal Division approving the  
name of captioned individual for inclusion  
in the Security Index. Approval appears in  
100-398030- 15.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/PSK  
ON 5/19/82

FILED

Remarks:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 5/8/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

100-20396-  
NOT RECORDED  
20 JUN 8 1953

Standards Applicable (Circle): IA, IBa, IBb, IBc, IBd, IBe, II, III.

Processed by:

Date:

Positive ☐ Negative ☐

Reviewed by: 31

Date:

Positive ☐ Negative ☐

78 FBI Notified:

(Date)

(Initials)

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

FROM : SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: 3/5/54

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~REGISTERED MAIL

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

ReBulet 2/23/54.

Subject interviewed by Special Agents ALDEN F. MILLER and [redacted] on subject's farm located twelve miles from Douglasville, Ga. WEST lives alone on this farm at the present time, and apparently is actively engaged in productive farm activity.

b6  
b7c

WEST alleged that he was "being persecuted" for his "honest beliefs", and described himself as a "principled man, and an ordained minister of Jesus Christ". He stated he had never participated in any group or individual activity, nor ever wrote or said anything in which he did not sincerely believe at the time he so spoke or acted.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) 5/25/54

WEST observed that he is a "principled man" who strove only to "accomplish good" for his fellow man, and in so doing, worked with any individual or groups who had the same objectives as he did. In this regard, he said he has not actually belonged to the Communist Party since the time (1935-36) that he was employed as a District Organizer for the Communist Party in the State of Kentucky. He said, however, that he had continued associations with persons whom he "believed to be Communists", and in this regard referred to HOMER BATES CHASE (subject of Internal Security Matter - C, Smith Act of 1940 case, Bufile 100-349078). He reiterated, however, that these associations occurred as a result of his mutual objective of "accomplishing good" for his fellow man, mentioning that so far as his relations with CHASE were concerned they solely resulted from the mutual interest in the organization of the Progressive Party of Georgia, and the Presidential candidacy of HENRY A. WALLACE in 1948.

ETK:ML

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/PSK  
ON 3/18/82

RECORDED-19

INDEXED-19

MAR 15 1954

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MAR 8 1954

INT. SEC.

- 134

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

AT - 100-559

WEST stated he was a strong admirer of WALLACE, and believed in the original objectives of the Progressive Party of Georgia. However, he claimed that "HOMER BATES CHASE, EUDICE TONTAK, [redacted] and outsiders from New York and other places" by their domineering attitude, ruined all chances of success of this "liberal" party. He pointed out that he had constantly differed with CHASE during the organization and forming of the Progressive Party of Georgia, and stated "Do you think that if I were in the Communist Party at that time that I would be at liberty to differ with CHASE". WEST expressed extreme distaste for CHASE, TONTAK, and [redacted] all of whom have been identified with Communist Party activity in Georgia in the past.

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b7c

WEST observed that he was extremely resentful of the treatment he had received "in the hands of the McCARRAN Sub-Committee" (apparently referring to U. S. Senate Sub-Committee hearings held about 8/13/52). WEST pointed out that a "paid informer", HARVEY M. MATUSOW, had, (apparently on 3/5/52) given sworn testimony that WEST was (1) a Baptist preacher; (2) a Boy Scout Troop Leader; and (3) that he had allegedly met WEST at a Communist Party meeting in 1951.

WEST stated that he considered that it would be a relatively easy matter to prove perjury against MATUSOW since WEST was (1) not a Baptist, but an ordained minister of the Congregational Faith; (2) that he had never participated in the Boy Scout movement; and (3) that he was sure that the FBI had information available or could get information which would prove that WEST had not belonged to the Communist Party for many years.

WEST said that for the above reasons he granted an interview to "Atlanta Journal" newspaper reporter, CELESTINE SIBLEY, and that the article written by CELESTINE SIBLEY appearing in the "Atlanta Journal" on 8/14/52, accurately expressed his views concerning the "false testimony" made against WEST in the McCARRAN Committee Hearings.

Summary of Observations as a Result of Interview:

- (1) WEST did not appear to be very cooperative in that

AT - 100-559

he declined to go into any detail or be specific.

(2) WEST contradicted allegations of membership in the Communist Party since 1936, but did admit associations with known Communists as indicated in Summary Report of SA C. DALLAS MOBLEY, at Atlanta, dated 4/21/53.

(3) It is not believed that WEST would be available as a witness, nor that he would make a satisfactory witness due to his highly nervous temperament, and tendency to insist on making generalized statements.

(4) WEST does not appear to be available as a source of information or an informant.

(5) No further contacts with WEST are contemplated UACB.

Report follows.

Best Copy

SAC, Atlanta

February 23, 1954

Director, FBI

NATHAN KATZ  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bufile 100-46430

LAURENCE REDDICK  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bufile 100-332984

✓ DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bufile 100-20396

[REDACTED]  
SECURITY MATTER - C

RUBEN GOTTSEY  
SECURITY MATTER - C

[REDACTED]  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bufile 100-311873

G. MURPHY DEWICH  
SECURITY MATTER - C

ReBulet dated November 10, 1953, captioned  
"Communist Party, USA, Legislative Activity, Internal  
Security - C" (Georgia State Anti-subversive Law).

ReBulet authorized interviews with the above-  
named individuals with the exception of Branch. You  
were requested in relet to institute investigation of  
Branch, promptly submit a report and thereafter  
resubmit your recommendation as to an interview with  
him.

It is desired that reports be submitted in  
these cases no later than March 8, 1954.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
In \_\_\_\_\_  
andy \_\_\_\_\_

EBS:bh

RECEIVED FEB 24 1954

100-20396-✓  
NOT RECORDED  
106 FEB 24 1954

YELLOW  
DUPLICATE  
FEB 23 1954  
MAILED

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-46430

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT ATLANTA

~~SECRET~~

b6  
b7C

REPORT MADE AT ATLANTA	DATE WHEN MADE 5-31-54	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8-27;12-10,12,22-53; 1-18,19;3-2,5;4-13;	REPORT MADE BY [redacted] lat
---------------------------	---------------------------	--	----------------------------------

TITLE  
DONALD LEE WEST, was.

5-24-54  
AGENCY 100-11250  
CHARACTER OF CASE  
SECURITY MATTER - C

REQ. REC'D 9-19-53  
REF. FORM 7-26-53  
BY [redacted]

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject continues to farm and reside at RFD #4, Douglasville, Ga. Informant advised that on 11-25-53, [redacted] Durham, N.C., delivered 2,000 copies of a book, authored by WEST, entitled "The Road is Rocky", to subject at Douglasville, Ga. [redacted] allegedly delivered these books from the Abernethy Book Store, Chapel Hill, N.C., and WEST reportedly paid him \$800 upon delivery. Abernethy Book Shop, Chapel Hill, N.C., operated by MILTON AVANT ABERNETHY and his wife, MINNA ABERNETHY. ABERNETHYS called before Senate Internal Security Committee in spring, 1953, and declined to answer most questions on grounds of Fifth Amendment. MINNA ABERNETHY identified by informant as member of CP. WEST interviewed 3-2-54. WEST said he had not actually belonged to CP since about 1935-36 when he was District Organizer of CP in Kentucky. He admitted subsequent associations with persons he "believed to be Communists". He explained such associations based on his support of same causes as those in which CP interested at time, such as Progressive Party of Georgia during 1948. However, denies such support by him was result of his affiliation with or support of CP as such but only incidental to WEST's support of same objectives as CP. [Subject did not appear cooperative.]

b6  
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

AGENCY 100-11250  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 6/5/54  
HOW FORW. [redacted]  
BY [redacted]

Class. & Ext. By 60-1 CEX/PSK  
Reason-FCIM II 1-2.4.2  
Date of Review 3/31/92

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [redacted]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau (100-20396) (REGISTERED MAIL) 3 Atlanta (100-559)		COPIES DESTROYED 54 OCT 3
COPIES DESTROYED 54 OCT 3		COPIES DESTROYED 4 29 54

COPY IN FILE

AT 100-589

~~SECRET~~

DETAILS:

AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

All informants hereinafter identified are of known reliability unless otherwise indicated.

[Atlanta Informants T-1 and T-2 advised] ~~(S)~~ that DONALD IRE WEST continues to farm and reside at RFD #4, Douglasville, Georgia.

[Atlanta Informant T-3 advised] ~~(S)~~ that he has had an opportunity to observe subject and that subject is apparently making an industrious effort to operate a successful farm at RFD #4, Douglasville, Georgia, and claims to be doing some writing. Otherwise, informant stated that the subject was not observed by the informant to have engaged in any other activities.

[Atlanta Informant T-2 advised] ~~(S)~~ SA ALLEN F. MILLER on January 18, 1954, that he has learned that one [redacted] Durham, North Carolina, has contacted WEST on November 20, 1953. COULAKIS was driving a [redacted] bearing 1953 North Carolina license 603-328, and at the time of the contact delivered to WEST 2,000 copies of the book entitled, "The Road is Rocky", which was written by WEST. Informant advised that his information indicated that these books had been delivered to WEST and were from the Abernethy Book Store, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Informant further advised that he has received information that DONALD WEST paid \$800 to [redacted] upon delivery of the books. b6 b7C

Captain JIM SEAGROW, Durham Police Department, Durham, North Carolina, advised that his records reflected that 1953 North Carolina license 603-328 was issued to [redacted] and property of [redacted] Durham, North Carolina. b6 b7C

[redacted] Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, advised that the records of that office reflected that [redacted] was a member of the Junior Class at Duke University. The records reflected that he was born [redacted] at [redacted] North Carolina, the son of JAMES COULAKIS, deceased, and ANGELINE VOORHEES, [redacted] Asheville, North Carolina. b6 b7C

The records at Duke University further reflected that [redacted] graduated from Lee Elementary School, Asheville, North Carolina, and attended Asheville-Biltmore College from 1948 to 1950. He entered Duke b6 b7C

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

University on January 19, 1952. His home address was listed as in care of Mrs. ANGELINE VOUTER, 4 Sawyer Street, Asheville, North Carolina. His address at Duke University was listed as Dormitory Room 702, in which he roomed with [redacted] and [redacted].

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b7C

[redacted] Defense Informant T-4, another Government agency, advised that two records of that agency reflected that [redacted] listed his mother as Mrs. ANGELINE COULANIS, 4 Sawyer Street, Asheville, North Carolina, and his birth date as [redacted] at [redacted] North Carolina. The informant further advised that this individual was reportedly classified 4-F in October, 1951, under the provisions of Selective Service Act.

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[redacted] Atlanta Informant T-5 advised that he had known [redacted] for three or four years. Informant advised that [redacted] was a brother of [redacted]. Informant stated that [redacted] was not known by the informant to be engaged in any subversive activity in the vicinity of Asheville, North Carolina, and that he had never known [redacted] to have attended any meetings of any organization which might be engaged in subversive activities.

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[redacted] Informant T-7 advised that MILTON ABERNETHY and his wife, MRS. ABERNETHY, formerly operated the Intimate Book Shop and presently operate Abernethy's Store in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

[redacted] Weaverville, North Carolina, on July 13, 1950, was advised that [redacted] membership in the Communist Party at Chapel Hill from 1935 to 1937, advised that the "Southern Worker", a subsidiary of the "Daily Worker", an East Coast Communist daily newspaper, was published in the rear of the Intimate Book Shop operated by the ABERNETHYS at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

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PAUL CROUCH, an admitted Communist Party functionary from 1945 to 1948, described both Mr. and Mrs. ABERNETHY, on August 4, 1950, as persons who were known to him to be Communist Party sympathizers.

[redacted] on March 21, 1949, identified MRS. ABERNETHY as a member of the Communist Party and indicated that MILTON A. ABERNETHY tolerated this Communist Party membership and allowed his place of business to be used as a meeting place for Communist Party members.

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b7C~~SECRET~~

AT 100-159

~~SECRET~~

~~(S)~~ Atlanta Informant T-7 advised that Mr. and Mrs. ABERNETHY were called before the Senate Internal Security Committee during the spring of 1953, at which time both declined to answer most questions put to them on the grounds of the Fifth Amendment.

Referral/Consult

Atlanta Informant T-6. [REDACTED] ~~(S)~~

b6  
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~~(S)~~ Atlanta Informant T-5 advised that [REDACTED] brother of [REDACTED] attended a Communist Party meeting at Greensboro, North Carolina, on January 24, 1950.

Atlanta Informant T-1 advised on January 19, 1954, that DON L. WEST had contacted ANNIE MAE LEATHERS, LEAH YOUNG WASHBURN, and [REDACTED] on January 18, 1954. Informant identified ANNIE MAE LEATHERS, LEAH YOUNG WASHBURN, and [REDACTED] as having been members of the Communist Party for over twenty years. According to the informant, WEST asked these three sisters to make an effort to obtain subscriptions to the "Farm and Home Magazine", which is published at Montgomery, Alabama, by AUDREY WILLIAMS. WEST allegedly offered these persons a proposition by which they were to sell five year subscriptions to this magazine at the rate of \$1 for the entire period and they in turn could retain \$1 as their commission for each five one year subscriptions sold. WEST further advised them that this publication was formerly known as the "Southern Farmer". ~~(S)~~

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b7C

#### INTERVIEW OF SUBJECT

DONALD LEE WEST was interviewed on March 2, 1954, at his farm, which is located twelve miles from Douglasville, Georgia.

WEST advised that he felt that he was "being persecuted" for his "honest beliefs" and described himself as a

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

"principled man and an ordained minister of Jesus Christ". WEST stated to the agents that he had never participated in any group or individual activity nor had ever written or said anything in which he did not sincerely believe at the time he so spoke or acted. WEST observed that as a "principled man" he strove only to "accomplish good for all men" and in so doing worked with any individual or groups whom he felt had the same objectives as he did.

In this regard, he said that he at one time believed that the Communist Party was seeking the same objectives in which he believed and was sincerely interested in bettering the lot of his fellow man. WEST, although inclining to advise the agents, as to the exact period of his membership in the Communist Party, advised the agents that he had now belonged to the Communist Party since about 1935 or 1936, at which time he represented the Communist Party as a District Organizer in the State of Kentucky. WEST said that subsequently, "through the years", he had continued periodic associations with persons whom he "believed" to be Communists".

When asked to name some of these persons, he stated that "it is no secret" that he associated with HOMER BATES CHASE, self-admitted District Organizer for District 31, Communist Party, USA, Atlanta, Georgia, from 1944 to 1948. WEST said that he personally had no use for CHASE and that they were in frequent disagreement. He said, however, that his association with CHASE centered around their mutual interest in the organization of the Progressive Party of Georgia and the presidential candidacy of HENRY A. WALLACE in 1948. WEST stated that he personally had a strong and continuing admiration for Mr. WALLACE. WEST observed that the objectives of the Progressive Party of Georgia and support for the presidential candidacy of HENRY A. WALLACE in 1948 "may have been successful except, "that HOMER BATES CHASE, RUDICE TORREN, [redacted] and other outsiders from New York and other places" by their "domineering attitude" ruined "all chances of success for this liberal party". WEST stated to the agents, "I am sure that if I were in the Communist Party at that time that I would be at liberty to differ with CHASE."

b6  
b7c

[Atlanta Informant T-1 advised in 1948, that RUDICE TORREN had been an active Communist Party member at that time.]

WEST stated that at United States Senate Sub-Committee on Internal Security had had hearings about August 13, 1952, in which HARVEY M. MITCHELL had given testimony that he knew WEST as a Baptist preacher, a boy scout troop leader, and a person that he met at a Communist Party meeting in 1931.

~~SECRET~~

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

WEST advised that as far as he, WEST, was concerned, MATUSOW was a perjurer and that these statements by MATUSOW were false. He said as a result of these hearings he had granted an interview to Mrs. CELESTINE SIBLEY of the Atlanta Journal, daily newspaper, Atlanta, Georgia, which appeared in the Atlanta Journal on August 14, 1952. WEST advised that the report by Mrs. SIBLEY "accurately expressed my views concerning this false testimony" and that he, WEST, had nothing further to add to the information which he had furnished Mrs. SIBLEY.

The Atlanta Journal, a daily newspaper printed in Atlanta, Georgia, dated August 14, 1952, carries the results of an interview by Mrs. CELESTINE SIBLEY of DON WEST. Mrs. SIBLEY reported that WEST "angrily denied Wednesday that he is a member of the Communist Party or that he participated in any effort to infiltrate the Boy Scout movement with Red propaganda".

Mrs. SIBLEY reported that WEST was interviewed in connection with the publication of a Senate subcommittee report previous Wednesday in Washington, D.C. She quotes WEST as stating "Well, Senator McCarran ----- He sees Communists under every bed! The truth is not in him. As for this Matusew report, I am not a Baptist clergyman, I have never been a Baptist clergyman and I've never had anything to do with the Boy Scouts! I have the greatest admiration for the Boy Scout organization, as much as I know about it. Our two daughters attend Girl Scout camp - but I don't see that has anything to do with this".

Mrs. SIBLEY's report continues, "WEST said he had been ordained in the Congregational Church and had preached several years ago, 'But I'm not doing anything now except trying to make a living out here'". The article continues "They won't let me alone, (WEST SAYS), Twenty years ago I wrote a poem which appeared in the Daily Worker. I was a Communist then. Any young person who is not a rebel is not worth his salt. I am not a Communist now. I am a Georgia farmer. When I worked for the Peoples Progressive Party the Communists fought, opposed and attacked me as much as RALPH MCGILL has." (RALPH MCGILL is the editor of the Atlanta Constitution, an Atlanta daily newspaper.)

"I don't think it does any good to deny or claim. I believe in the teachings of Jesus. I believe if there is one thing you can live by it's His saying that 'By their fruits ye shall know them'. I'll be content to be known by my fruits".

~~SECRET~~

100-100-100

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

It is noted that in connection with the investigation of the CUL DEPAI COUPONING case, James Caroline, manager of this concern, was supervisor of Carlisle Foster at Atlanta, Ga. WEST was interviewed on 3-2-54 by SA ALLEN F. MILLER and SA [redacted]

b6  
b7CCONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM

Source of Information	Date or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Furnished	File Number where located
[redacted] b2 b7D	Re continued learning and residence of subject at RFD #4, Douglasville, Ga.	2-11-54 1-15-54	orally to SA J. MILLER ROBERT and b2 SA ALLEN F. b7D MILLER	[redacted] file
[redacted]	Re WEST's contact at 1-19-54 ARNOLD MAX HAWKINS, et al, on 1-18-54		orally to SA ALLEN F. MILLER	[redacted]
T-2 GEORGE P. JILLARD, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, State Capitol, Atlanta, Ga.	Residence of WEST at RFD #4, Douglasville, Ga.	1-15-54	orally to SA JEROME H. HANSLINGER	instant report
T-2	Re delivery of 2,000 copies of WEST's book to WEST on 11-25-53 by [redacted]	1-15-54	orally to SA ALLEN F. MILLER	Atlanta file 100-559-517
T-3 Warrant Officer [redacted] CTF, Fort McPherson, Ga. a neighbor of WEST	Re residence and occupation of WEST	12-18-53	orally to SA ALLEN F. MILLER	100-559-517

AT 100-559

Source of Information	Date of Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File Number where located
T-1 [redacted] [redacted] Selective Service Board, Asheville, N.C.	Re [redacted] [redacted]	From CP letter to Atlanta 3-21-54. Further documentation not available.	Unknown	AT 100-559-121
T-5 [redacted]	Re background [redacted]	"	"	AT 100-559-121
T-5 [redacted]	[redacted]	"	"	AT 100-559-501
cc Charlotte Office dated 10-2-52	[redacted]	Referral/Consult		(S)
T-7 CP letter to Atlanta 3-22-54 (specific source not given)	Re operation ABERNETHY Book Store, Chapel Hill, N.C. by MILTON and MINNA ABERNETHY	"	"	AT 100-559-501
T-5 [redacted]	Re [redacted] attendance CP meeting Greensboro, N.C. 1-24-50	"	"	AT 100-559-121

REFERENCE: Atlanta letter to Director dated November 23, 1953.  
Bureau letter to Atlanta dated February 23, 1954.  
Atlanta letter to Bureau dated March 5, 1954.  
Charlotte letter to Atlanta dated March 22, 1954.

~~SECRET~~

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)  
FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)  
SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SM - C

**SECRET**

DATE: 4-13-54

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK  
Reason: CIM II, 1-2.4.2 Card U.T.D.  
Date of Review 3/19/92 4-26-54 apc  
3/19/82

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the  
above captioned individual.

X The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be G. I. R. -1  
changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ALIASES DON WEST, JAMES ALLEN WEAVER  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

RACE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_ NATIVE BORN \_\_\_\_\_ NATURALIZED \_\_\_\_\_ ALIEN \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNIST \_\_\_\_\_ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY \_\_\_\_\_ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE \_\_\_\_\_

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

TAB FOR DETCOM \_\_\_\_\_ TAB FOR COMSAB \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENCE ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) \_\_\_\_\_

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List) \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTERED MAIL

100-20396-  
NOT RECORDED  
2 APR 15 1954

ETK:SIB

APR 28 1954

**SECRET**

INT. SEC.  
A. E. [Signature]

## Office Memorandum

• UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: February 11, 1955

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

Reference Bureau airtel January 28, 1955 and New York airtel February 3, 1955 captioned [redacted] former security informant, containing instructions concerning corrective action to be taken in those cases where information was furnished by MATUSOW. b7D

In this connection, reference is made to New York letter to Atlanta dated February 5, 1955 captioned as above.

*Corrected*  
In accordance with Bureau instructions as set forth in referenced airtels, Atlanta letter to the Bureau dated September 11, 1952, copies to Cincinnati and Washington Field, are to be appropriately corrected so indicating that HARVEY MATUSOW is of known unreliability.

The Atlanta copy of this communique has been so corrected.

AFM/bd  
(8)

2cc: New York (info) (100-22129) (100-94014 Sub A)  
1cc: Washington Field (100-18793)  
1cc: Cincinnati (100-2820)  
1cc: AT file [redacted] b2 b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RX

RECORDED - 81

EX - 118

LED IN

8500

MAR 1 1955

100-20396-136

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 2/8/55

FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (100-2820)

SUBJECT : DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK**

Bt

Re New York airtel dated 2/1/55 and New York teletype dated 2/3/55 captioned HARVEY MATUSOW, Former Security Informant. It is noted MATUSOW was an informant of the New York Office from June to July, 1950, under symbol [redacted] and an informant in Albuquerque until December, 1950, under symbol [redacted]. Retels instructed that the following action should be taken with regard to information furnished by MATUSOW:

b2  
b7D

1. Reports from MATUSOW should be labeled to indicate that information from him is of known unreliability and should not be disseminated to outside agencies unless corroborated by other reliable sources, in which event the information furnished by MATUSOW should be identified as coming from an individual of known unreliability. Each Bureau Office which has been furnished information from MATUSOW should be instructed to note its files accordingly.
2. All reports, letters, teletypes, airtels and radiograms containing uncorroborated or disproven information from MATUSOW which have been disseminated by each office to the Bureau, other Bureau offices and/or outside agencies must be corrected to reflect the known unreliability of MATUSOW. The above corrective action will require that you furnish the Bureau, other Bureau offices, and, where necessary, outside agencies, letters identifying the case by title and character together with the dates of communications containing information received from MATUSOW. If the information is set out in reports, the cover letters should include the necessary amended pages and show the name of the reporting agent, date and place of report, as well as the title and character of the report.
3. In each instance where corrective action is taken, you must advise the Bureau by separate letter captioned "HARVEY MATUSOW, FORMER SECURITY INFORMANT," of

RCD:VD  
CC: 66-2397A

REGISTERED MAIL

CC: 1 - Atlanta (100-559) (RM)  
2 - New York (RM)100-20396-  
NOT RECORDED

FEB 10 1955

66 MAR 4 1955

Category I

JMS  
INT. SEC.  
CONFIDENTIAL

- (a) The title and character of the case;
  - (b) The name of the subject as furnished by MATUSOW.
  - (c) The Bureau file number where known.
  - (d) The identity of the Bureau office and/or outside agency, together with that agency's location.
  - (e) If the correction was made by letter or if amended pages were submitted.
4. You must instruct each interested Bureau Office, which has made further dissemination of such information from MATUSOW to follow the specific instructions contained in Item 2 above.
5. Each office should set up a control file regarding the above corrective action so that upon completion of same you will be able to submit to the Bureau a final letter under the caption HARVEY MATUSOW, Former Security Informant, identifying each case by title, character, Bufile where known, and the date of the communication.
6. The Bureau considers this project of utmost importance and, therefore, you must immediately assign sufficient agent personnel to handle this project of review and corrective action so that it will be completed within five days of the receipt of this letter, without fail. The above instructions must be relayed to all other interested Bureau offices.

A review of subject's file reflects that this office disseminated the communications hereinafter set out. Where the communication is a report an appropriate number of copies of amended pages are enclosed for the Bureau and for the offices receiving copies in the original or a subsequent distribution. The distribution for each report is shown and the amended pages are indicated. All reports, unless otherwise designated, are dated at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Where distribution of reports reflects copies were furnished intelligence agencies, letters are being directed to those agencies for the return of the reports so amended pages can be inserted and the old pages destroyed.

Where a communication is a letter or memo to the Bureau and/or to field offices, it is requested that the known unreliability of MATUSOW be indicated on the communication.

This completes corrective action in subject's file in this office.

The disseminated communications are:

DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Cincinnati letter to Bureau dated 9/25/52.

*Corrected  
ms*

Dissemination: 1 - Atlanta (100-559)  
2 - New York

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 2/5/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

Rebuairtel 1/28/55 and NY airtel 2/3/55 captioned "HARVEY MATUSOW, Former Security Informant" containing instructions concerning corrective action to be taken in those cases where information was furnished by MATUSOW.

In this connection, reference is also made to Cincinnati letter to Bureau, 9/25/52, captioned as above. Pursuant to Bureau instructions as set forth in reairtels, the NYO copy of relet has been corrected and it is requested that the Bureau and other offices take the appropriate corrective action regarding the information contained in relet.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BSK

1 - Atlanta (100-559)  
1 - Cincinnati (100-2820)  
1 - NY 100-94014 Sub A  
SPC:EXP

100 - 20396 - ✓  
FEB 10 1955

Category I

File

RECEIVED

66 MAR 4 1955

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 2/5/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

BT Rebuairtel 1/28/55 and NY airtel 2/3/55 captioned "HARVEY MATUSOW, Former Security Informant" containing instructions concerning corrective action to be taken in those cases where information was furnished by MATUSOW.

Corrected  
In this connection, a reference is made to Atlanta let to Bureau, 11/7/52, in the above captioned matter. Pursuant to the instructions contained in rebuairtels, the NYO copy of relet has been corrected and it is requested that the Bureau and other offices take the appropriate corrective action regarding the information set out in relet.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

- 1 - Atlanta (100-559)
- 1 - Washington Field (100-18793)
- 1 - NY 100-94014 Sub A

SPC:EXP

100-20396-  
NOT RECORDED

10 FEB 3 1955

66 MAR 4 1955

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

FROM : SAG, New York (100-22129)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

DATE: 2/5/55

Rebuairtel 1/28/55 and NY airtel 2/3/55 captioned "HARVEY MATUSOW, Former Security Informant" containing instructions concerning corrective action to be taken in those cases where information was furnished by MATUSOW.

In this connection, reference is made to NYlet to Bureau 1/8/53 captioned as above. In accordance with Bureau instructions as set forth in reairtels, the NYO copy of relet has been corrected and it is requested that the Bureau and other offices take the appropriate corrective action regarding the information set forth in relet.

*Corrected  
ms*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/13/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

100-20396 ✓  
NOT RECORDED

FEB 10 1955

- 1 - Atlanta (100-559)
- 1 - NY 100-94014 Sub A

SPC:EXP

*John M. ...*

CONSOLIDATION

66 MAR 4 1955

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: February 11, 1955

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

Reference Bureau airtel January 28, 1955 and New York airtel February 3, 1955 captioned HARVEY MATUSOW, former security informant, containing instructions concerning corrective action to be taken in those cases where information was furnished by MATUSOW.

*Corrected print*

In this connection a reference is made to Washington Field letter to the Bureau dated December 22, 1952, with copy to Atlanta, captioned as above. Pursuant to the instructions contained in referenced Bureau airtels the Atlanta copy of referenced letter has been corrected and it is requested that the Bureau and Washington Field Office take the appropriate corrective action regarding the information set out in referenced letter.

AFM/bd  
(7)

2cc: New York (info)(100-22129)(100-94014 Sub A)  
lcc: Washington Field (100-18793)  
lcc: AT file

b2  
b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

RECORDED - 81

EX - 118

FEB 12 1955

100-20396-137

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 3/14/55

FROM : SAC, WFO (100-18793)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

Re Buairtel to New York 1/28/55; and, WFO airtel 3/9/55 entitled "HARVEY M. MATUSOW, FORMER CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMANT".

WFO files reflect information concerning MATUSOW under captioned subject was forwarded to Bureau, Atlanta, and Cincinnati. In accordance with Bureau instructions re above airtels, the WFO communication has been corrected.

It is requested that the Atlanta Division take appropriate corrective action regarding the information which was transmitted.

The WFO communication referred to above is as follows:

WFO letter to Director dated 12/22/52, cc Atlanta.  
WFO letter to Director dated 9/19/52, cc Atlanta and Cincinnati.

Corrective action was also taken in Atlanta letter to Bureau dated 9/11/52, cc Cincinnati; and, Atlanta letter to Bureau dated 11/7/52, cc Cincinnati and New York.

AMR:BRH  
(10)

2 - Atlanta (100-559) *RM*  
2 - Cincinnati *RM*  
2 - New York (100-22129) *RM*  
1 - WFO   *b2*  
*b7D*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

RECORDED - 72

100-20396 138

EX-124

13 MAR 1955

125  
67 MAR 22 1955

*THREE*

cc - Boardman  
cc - Belmont  
cc - Cox  
cc - Simpson

SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

June 24, 1955

RECORDED-37

Director, FBI (100-20396)-139

Security Index Card Canceled

DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C

EX-104

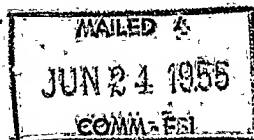
Reurlet dated June 10, 1955, in which you recommended that subject be retained on the Security Index. The Bureau disagrees with your recommendation in view of the fact that no information has been developed establishing Communist Party activities on the part of this individual during the past five years and there is no information in the file indicating his activities meet the criteria for inclusion in the Security Index as set forth in SAC Letter 55-30.

Subject's Security Index card is accordingly being cancelled at the Bureau and you should take appropriate action with respect to the subject's Security Index card maintained in your office. You should, however, remain alert for any Communist Party or Communist front activities on behalf of this individual and if any such information comes to your attention, the Bureau should be promptly advised.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

Attachment to memo to Boardman from Belmont, 6/24/55, same caption, RDS:amc.

RDS:amc  
(7)



Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

60 JUL 13 1955

## Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: 6/10/55

FROM : SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

~~SECRET~~SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, Was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Class. &amp; Ext. By SP-1 CSK/ask

Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2

Date of Review 4/13/82

REFERENCE Security Index Card Canceled

1.1-55-gea cancel ST  
6/16/55

SAC Letter No. 55-30 dated April 12, 1955.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT

WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

SUCCINCT RESUME OF CASE

The Daily Worker, June 19, 1934, refers to WEST as the Communist Party organizer in the South, stating that he was to speak at the International Labor Defense in behalf of ANGELO HERNDON. The Daily Worker of November 1, 1935, refers to WEST as Communist organizer. The Daily Worker of June 22, 1937, refers to WEST as the Georgia born organizer of the Communist Party, Kentucky. The Daily Worker, June 22, 1937, refers to WEST as State Organizer, Workers Alliance of Kentucky, and a member of the National Unemployed Committee for BROWDER and FORD. WEST wrote a poem appearing in the Daily Worker of March 13, 1934, entitled, "Listen, I Am A Communist". WEST was described by PAUL CROUCH as a Communist Party member in 1934, when doing labor organizing in North Carolina and later in Kentucky. The subject was a close contact of HOMER BATES CHASE, former District Organizer, District 31, Communist Party, United States of America, until 1950. WEST has been a close associate of NAT ROSS, former member of the Communist Party National Committee. Subject held Communist Party card number 96336 in 1947, according to a highly confidential source. WEST active in Progressive Party Campaign in 1948, and was co-chairman of the Communist Party in Georgia, according to informants. WEST was active with the Home Missions Council of North America in 1950 and with the Institute of Applied Religion. [redacted] in 1955, described WEST as a comrade who comes to Communist Party New York City Headquarters infrequently on Party business, and was looked on as a comrade who had the facility to "straighten out" difficult Party problems. He stated that he had not seen WEST since 1950. WEST was interviewed on March 2, 1954, and admitted Communist Party membership in 1935-36, association with known Communist Party members, and

CPR/kim

(3)

~~CANCELLED~~

JUL 5 1955

RECORDED - 86

JUN 18 1955

EX-126

~~SECRET~~

Adrian

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/9/82 BY SP-1 CSK/ask

b2  
b7D

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF CANCELLATION  
DATE 5/25/82

AT 100-559

~~SECRET~~

stated he was "being persecuted" for his "honest beliefs". WEST continues to maintain periodic contact with known Communist Party members. [REDACTED] NAT ROSS, HARRY KOGER, SAM SILLEN, and is presently publishing monthly paper at Dalton, Georgia, entitled, "The Southerner". This publication first published in March 1955, and is receiving close attention by the Atlanta Office for any Communist Party propaganda.

b6  
b7C

#### RECOMMENDATION

Retain in Security Index. There is no information in Atlanta files that brings the subject within the provision of SAC Letter 55-30, Security Index Criteria. However, there is no information available in Atlanta files that reflect WEST has ever defected from Communist Party ideology or has been expelled from the Communist Party. The subject was generally uncooperative on interview and has continued contact with local Security Index subjects. This subject has a very lengthy history of Communist Party activity dating back to 1934, and his name was in the effects of JUNIUS SCALES at the time of his arrest on November 18, 1954, at Memphis, Tennessee.

#### DETCOM TABBING

1. The subject is not tabbed for Detcom.
2. The subject has not been approved for Detcom tabbing under the criteria in SAC Letter No. 55-12 and no Security Index cards have been received from the Bureau.
3. WEST is not being recommended for Detcom tabbing.

~~SECRET~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: May 23, 1955

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

REGISTERED MAIL

Card U.T.D.

6-17-55 6/11/1

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

X

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME

ALIASES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BK

NATIVE BORN NATURALIZED ALIEN

COMMUNIST SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify)

TAB FOR DETCOM TAB FOR COMSAB RACE SEX

DATE OF BIRTH PLACE OF BIRTH

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) Self-employed, MINISTER,  
Church of the Union Assembly of God, South Thornton and Central Avenue,  
Dalton, Georgia.

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List)

Self-employed Writer, ~~Minister~~ Publisher and Editor of  
The Southerner.RESIDENCE ADDRESS South Thornton and Central Avenue, Dalton, Georgia (rear)  
care of Church of the Union Assembly of God MAY 26 1955CPR:iat  
(3)36  
53 JUN 28 1955

A. B. [Signature]

Copy/ LAD

1 - Central Research Section  
1 - Williams

April 26, 1955

SAC, Atlanta

Director, FBI

THE SOUTHERN  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reurlet April 14, 1955

~~SECRET~~  
100-20376-  
It is desired that you subscribe to the captioned publication and obtain copies through the use of a confidential post office box or similar cover. Copies received should be carefully reviewed by your office and where it is deemed necessary or advisable the Bureau and interest offices should be furnished pertinent information contained therein under appropriate case caption. It will not be necessary to furnish copies of this publication to the Bureau at this time.

You should follow closely the activities of this publication and the individuals connected therewith and when it appears investigation is warranted you should advise the Bureau and initiate such investigation in accordance with instructions set out in Section 87 D of the Manual of Instructions.

Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSL  
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
Date of Review 4/6/82

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

CFW:bas  
(5)

ON YELLOW: The stated aims of this publication are freedom and rights and justice for all, regardless of race, creed, sex or color. It is strictly independent as to politics and religion. It is not an organ for any political party. According to the referenced letter, individuals connected with this publication are the subjects of Security Matter-  
investigations.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF  
DATE 5/25/82

~~SECRET~~

67 MAY 3 1955

418268

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-20376-418268

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 14, 1955

FROM : SAC, Atlanta (100- )

ATTN: CENTRAL RESEARCH DESKSUBJECT: THE SOUTHERNER  
IS - C

~~Class. & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/PSK~~  
~~Reason-7.1.2.4.2.2~~  
~~Date of Review 4/14/82~~

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
 AND FIELD OFFICES  
 ADVISED BY ROUTING  
 SLIP(S) OF  
 DATE 5/25/82

The Atlanta Office is in receipt of the captioned publication Volume I, Number I dated March, 1955 (the date March, 1953 is believed to be erroneously printed on Page I inasmuch as March, 1955 appears on the following seven pages of this publication), received from [redacted] on April 6, 1955. Instant paper was sold to the informant by [redacted] (Atlanta File 100-430) and is reported to be a monthly publication. "The Southerner" lists its place of publication as Dalton, Georgia and the publishers as Rev. C. T. PRATT and Rev. DONALD L. WEST.

b2  
b6  
b7C  
b7D

Contributing editors are listed in "The Southerner" as Dr. ALVA TAYLOR, Tennessee; TOM LUDWIG, Tennessee; AUBREY WILLIAMS, Alabama; HOMER C. CLAY, Washington, D.C.; BYRON HERBERT REECE, Georgia and HOWARD BOWLING, Kentucky.

In an editorial entitled "The Southerner's Purpose, To Travel The Road Of Truth", by Rev. C. T. PRATT and Rev. DONALD L. WEST, appearing on Page 2 of "The Southerner" dated March, 1955, the following is noted:

"..... The Southerner's purpose is to travel the road of truth, and in the true American spirit. America is not a Democrat or a Republican. America is a principle-- the principle of freedom and right and justice for all regardless of race, creed, sex or color. . . . The Southerner is to be strictly independent as to politics and religion. Both of us are preachers in the Church of God of the Union Assembly, but we favor --and The Southerner stands for -- complete religious freedom for all. . . . In politics, too, The Southerner is independent. It is not an organ for any political party. Not a Democrat, nor a Socialist, not a Communist nor a Republican party paper. Neither is it a tail for any political party's kite. We want it made clear

1 CC Bufile 100-20396)

ENCL. (1) (REGISTERED MAIL)

2 - KNOXVILLE (INFO)(RM)

2 - ST. LOUIS (INFO)(RM)

2 - MOBILE (INFO) (1 --100-824)(RM)

1 - AT 100-559)

1 - AT 100-873)

1 - AT 100-4073)

CPR:jjd (18)

3 - MEMPHIS (INFO)(1-100-2312)(RM)  
 (1 - 100-THOMAS LUDWIG)  
 2 - WASHINGTON FIELD (INFO)(RM)

100-20396-  
 NOT RECORDED

78 APR 28 1955  
 INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

~~SECRET~~

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 WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

418268-  
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at the beginning that The Southerner is 100 percent independent. . . . "

~~SECRET~~

The files of the Atlanta Office reflect that Rev. CHARLES T. PRATT was an active participant and an associate of DONALD LEE WEST during the operation of The People's Progressive Party in the State of Georgia during 1948 and 1949.

"The Daily Worker" issues for November 1, 1935 and June 22, 1937, July 20 and October 5, 1936, and June 19, 1934, all make mention of DONALD LEE WEST as a Communist Party organizer for the State of Kentucky and/or "Communist Party Organizer in the South." "The Daily Worker" of March 13, 1934, Page 5, carried a poem written by DON WEST entitled "Listen, I Am A Communist."

The files of the Atlanta Office reflect that Dr. ALVA TAYLOR listed as a contributing editor to "The Southerner", has been the subject of a Security Matter - C case in which Memphis was the office of origin (Memphis File 100-2312).

The files of the Atlanta Office reflect that TOM LUDWIG, Farmer's Union, Andalusia, Alabama (possibly identical with THOMAS D. LUDWIG), purported CP member and formerly on staff of Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee (Atlanta File 100-4135-1 Page 23).

The files of the Atlanta Office reflect that AUBREY WILLIS WILLIAMS, listed as a contributing editor, is the subject of a Security Matter - C case, Mobile 00 (Mobile File 100-824).

Files of the Atlanta Office failed to reflect any identifiable information concerning [redacted] Washington, D.C.

b6  
b7C

The files of the Atlanta Office reflect that BYRON H. REECE, Blairsville, Georgia, was a subscriber to the "California Quarterly, Inc." as of November, 1950. The Los Angeles edition of the "Daily People's World", a west coast Communist newspaper, described the "California Quarterly, Inc." as a "New Progressive Publication . . . ."

The files of the Atlanta Office failed to reflect any identifiable information concerning HOWARD BOWLING, Kentucky, listed as a contributing editor.

A copy of "The Southerner", Volume I, Number I for March, 1955, is being enclosed for the information of the Central Research Desk. "The Southerner" is being made the subject of an IS-C case file in the Atlanta Office and the Atlanta Office will subscribe to this publication under proper cover unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau. The Bureau will be kept advised of all pertinent developments.

~~SECRET~~

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. L. V. Boardman *LB*  
FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont *AB*  
SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bufile 100-20396

DATE: June 24, 1955

~~SECRET~~

Security Index Card Canceled

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

The Atlanta Office by letter dated June 10, 1955, has recommended subject be retained in the Security Index. This letter submitted in accordance with procedure outlined in SAC Letter 55-30 concerning Security Index review. Review of file indicates that as early as 1934 subject was Communist Party organizer in the south. Frequent references during subsequent years in the "Daily Worker" refer to him as a Communist organizer. Subject was a close contact of Homer Bates Chase, former district organizer of the Communist Party until 1950. West has been a close associate of Nat Ross, former member of the Communist Party National Committee. [It is known that subject held a Communist Party membership card in 1947] and was active in Progressive Party campaign in 1948. There has been no indication of Communist Party activities on the part of subject since 1950. Subject was interviewed on March 2, 1954, and admitted Communist Party membership in 1935 and 1936. He continues to maintain periodic contact with known Communist Party members including above-mentioned Nat Ross.

## RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended the captioned subject be removed from the Security Index in view of the fact that there have been no Communist Party activities within the past five years and subject, therefore, does not meet the criteria for inclusion in the Security Index. Attached for your approval is a suggested letter to the Atlanta Office.

Class. & Ext. By *SP-1 CSH/RSR*  
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 *12*  
Date of Review *3/31/82*

RECORDED - 77

EX - 103

11 JUL 12 1955

## Attachment

cc - Boardman  
cc - Belmont  
cc - Cox  
cc - Simpson

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

RDS:amc

64 JUL 15 1955

~~SECRET~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DATE: August 9, 1955

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

ATTN: IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

SUBJECT: DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SM-C

Rebulet 6/24/55.

*Be*

Referenced letter instructs that the subject be removed from the Security Index. It is requested that the Security Flash Notice posted with the Identification Division be removed. *qz*

*SS Card Cancelled*REGISTERED MAIL *8/30/55*CPR/jaw  
(3)

RECORDED - 22

AUG 10 1955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RK

D AUG 30 1955

Simpson

Assistant Attorney General  
William F. Tompkins

June 29, 1955

Director, FBI

Security Index Card Canceled

EMERGENCY DETENTION PROGRAM

FBI Files 100-398030  
100-20396 (<sup>Donald</sup>David Lee West)

A Security Index card concerning Donald Lee West has previously been approved by the Department.

Inasmuch as subject's activities during the past five years do not meet the new criteria for the Security Index, this individual has been removed from the Security Index.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/PSK  
ON 3/26/82

SLIP (S) OF de lla  
DATE 7/25/82

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Atlanta letter dated June 10, 1955, indicates that subject was a CP organizer in the south as early as 1934. However, there has been no indication of CP activities on the part of subject since 1950 and there has been no indication of front activities during the past five years.

~~SECRET~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/26/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Watts \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RDS:amc  
(5)

2 yellows

YELLOW  
DUPLICATE  
JUN 29 1955  
MAILED

NOT RECORDED  
145 JUL 12 1955

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP (S) OF de lla  
DATE 7/25/82

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-398030-1126

The Dalton Citizen  
Published Thursdays

SECRET

THE DALTON NEWS  
Published Sundays

116 EAST CRAWFORD ST.

P. O. BOX 222

GEORGIA'S TWO LARGEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Class & Ext. By SP-1 GSK/RSK  
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
Date of Review 3/19/92

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

On past occasions I have received very nice letters from you  
relative to editorials, etc., we have written on criminal  
matters.

We are currently engaged in quite a campaign against Don West,  
who came here last winter and began a little monthly newspaper.  
We obtained from the House Committee on Un-American Activities  
his Communist background. West, co-publisher of the paper with  
E. T. Pratt, has as his two leading contributing editors, Aubrey  
Williams and Alva W. Taylor. Their records from the Un-American  
Activities file are as bad as Don West's.

Georgia has a law now which makes it unlawful for a person resid-  
ing within the state to be a member of the Communist Party, or  
a Communist, etc. We have stirred up a large amount of interest  
about the Communist backgrounds of these three men and the county  
grand jury, when it convenes Oct. 3, is going to look into the  
matter. What we need is any additional and late information  
about Don West and his Communist activities which might assist  
us in proving he has been a party member since the first of 1953,  
retroactive date of the Georgia law.

Of course I know you could not give me anything direct, but I  
was wondering if perhaps pertinent data could be made available  
to our solicitor-general, to Lt. Poole, of GBI, or Mr. Mumford,  
FBI agent in Atlanta? The GBI is making available its files on  
West to Erwin Mitchell, our solicitor-general, but I understand  
the FBI does not maintain such practices.

Having had the admiration and respect of you and the FBI for years,  
I cannot conceive that the organization would not cooperate in  
such a matter as vital as this.

Don West, Aubrey Williams and Alva Taylor, through their slanted  
writings, could make lots of friends in this area of Georgia for  
the Communist party.

SECRET

EX. - 107

29 SEP 27 1955

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

DALTON, GEORGIA

September 21, 1955

DONALD L. WEST

DONALD L. WEST

DON L. WEST

JIM WEAVER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 3/19/92 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

SEP 22 1955

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

64 OCT 14 1955

RECORDED - 72  
INDEXED - 72  
100 - 20396-142

10-7  
29 SEP 27 1955

**The Dalton Citizen** ~~SECRET~~  
Published Thursdays

**THE DALTON NEWS**  
Published Sundays

116 EAST CRAWFORD ST.

P. O. BOX 222

GEORGIA'S TWO LARGEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS



Page 2 -

DALTON, GEORGIA

If you have anything at all on West - Williams and Taylor do not reside in this county or state - which could be of benefit to the prosecution, I wonder if it could be made available?

Attached I'm sending you a few clippings to give you an idea of what has been going on locally about the issue.

Thanking you for your attention and for any assistance you or the FBI could give in this matter I remain,

Sincerely,

*Mark Pace*

Mark ~~Pace~~, editor

MP/lh  
encl.

67

~~SECRET~~

ENCLOSURE

100-20296-142



**● HI-LIGHT STAFF**—Pictured above is the staff of Dalton High School who will get out the school newspaper, The Dalton Hi-Light, this year. They are, front row, left to right, Billy McLellan, Billie Comber, Nancy Campbell, Wanda Wrinkle, editor; Floyd Hale, associate editor; and Caroline Hyman, back row; Martha McKinney, Jackie Lochridge, Susan Petty, Sude Nix, Betty McGarlin, Faye Lewallen, Dixie Hyde, Arnold Gates and Betty Braver. Not pictured was the staff photographer, Benny Robinson.

## Chest to Give \$750 to Red Cross to Aid Disaster-Hit Flood Areas Along Seacoast

Following the New England hurricane disaster, the Dalton Red Cross Chapter was asked by National Red Cross to raise \$750 as its share of the ten million dollars needed for that disaster.

Since the Whitfield Community Chest is launching a campaign to raise \$47,500 for 10 local agencies, Red Cross and Chest officials sought to incorporate the Red Cross appeal along with the Chest

## First Issue Of Hi-Light Out Sept. 16

The first issue of the Dalton Hi-Light for the current school term will come off the press in time for pregame sales on Friday, Sept. 16, according to Mrs. Henry L. Dyer, editor.

Wanda Wrinkle is editor of the paper; this year, published by a staff of advanced journalism students at Dalton High School. Associate editor is Floyd Hale.

Nine issues will be printed during the school term. Instead of following a regular monthly schedule,

## Gaddis to Settle Stock Sales Made To Local People

Carl Gaddis, charged last week with passing a worthless check, has made arrangements to settle that charge as well as pay cash received for the sale of stock in "Confederate Enterprises."

Sol Gen. Edwin Mitchell said yesterday that Gaddis sold stock in the amount of \$135 while here, including one sale for \$100, three \$10s and one \$5 sale. He also made arrangements to pay office space he used while here, as well as the payroll for an office secretary.

## Chest to Open Drive On Monday

The first campaign Kick-Off for the Community Chest has been set for Monday night, September 12, 7:30 o'clock at Dalton Hotel, when Mrs. L. Williamson and M. W. Hosen will launch their major gifts to the Chest.

The six-section chairman of major gifts are: Tom Lambert, David Hamilton, Clarence Hill, W. S. Dyer, Dr. Thomas C. McGehee and Burns Roach. Each of these section chairmen is a uniting a group of workers under which each will make a total of approximately 50 business men and women who will solicit in the first group.

With the addition of Mr. Singleton as chairman of the rural division and Mrs. J. L. Miller as chairman, that division will soon be prepared for the work.

Community chairman, Marion S. Sims, Jr., co-chairman, a complete list of names, rounding out a complete organization, which is this time being encouraging.

Dr. W. D. Denny, chairman of the speaker's bureau, announced the following speakers and engagements:

Dr. Denny and his guests will address the Citizens Club, Friday, September 9, at 12:30 p.m. at Dalton Hotel. The Rev. W. T. Lunsford will address the church at 7:30 p.m. at the Presbyterian church, September 13, at 8 o'clock.

Paul Crady, coach of Dalton High School, will address the American Legion Post No. 112 at the Legion hall, September 14, at 8 o'clock.

Dr. Ralph Ashley of the Salvation Army will address the Lion's Club at 7:30 p.m., September 27, at the Lion's Club.

Among those who have agreed to speak on behalf of the Community Chest are the following: The Rev. Paul H. Stokes, pastor of the Springs Methodist Church; Dr. Robert W. Jackson, pastor of the First Baptist church.

(Continued on page 2)

## \$2,500 Fair Cash Awards

Following is a breakdown of premium awards at the seventh annual North Georgia Fair, Sept. 26, Oct. 1:

Community displays	\$140.00
Livestock department	\$131.00
Dairy show	\$131.00
Best cattle show	\$131.00
Best sheep show	\$131.00
Best pig show	\$131.00
Best goat show	\$131.00
Best rabbit show	\$131.00
Department B	\$131.00
Agriculture dept. C	\$131.00
Club girls dept. D	\$131.00
Women's dept. E	\$131.00
School dept. F	\$131.00
Colored dept. G	\$131.00
Total	\$2,500.00

## One-Armed Vet Badly Hurt; Man Held for Hit-and-Run

A 26-year-old Murray County man was struck and critically injured in the only serious Labor Day holiday traffic accident reported in this area.

Donald Brown, a service veteran with his left arm amputated above the elbow, was struck about 9 p.m. Sunday as he led a cow along the highway near his home six miles south of Spring Place.

He was reported in critical condition this week at Belanger Hospital where he was rushed by Kenner ambulance following the mishap. Trooper Henry Wolf, who investigated the accident along with GBI agent Ernest Whitfield and Sheriff Tom Peoples, said Brown received a crushed right leg, skull fracture, chest crushed and possible other injuries.

Brown is the husband of Mrs. Lydia Brown of Ramhurst, and the son of Mark Brown of Dalton. Troy Earl Townsend, 25, son of B. O. Townsend, was charged with hit-and-run in connection with the accident and is being held in the Murray County Jail there. Sheriff Peoples reported.

Townsend's car has been impounded for investigation and examination by Dr. Herman Jones, head of the Atlanta Crime Laboratory, Sheriff Peoples said.

The accident occurred near the Holly Creek bridge.

Townsend's father reported the accident to Sheriff Peoples and called an ambulance to take him. The father said his son came home and told him he had run over a cow. The father and son returned.

(Continued on page 2)

DAILY WORKER, NEW YORK, TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1934

## Boy and Other Leaders of Proletarian Red Army

For today the publication of a biographical sketch of the boy and other leaders of the Proletarian Red Army, the popular Soviet Communist Party, is a most interesting and timely one. The book, "The Proletarian Red Army," by the author, is a most interesting and timely one. The book, "The Proletarian Red Army," by the author, is a most interesting and timely one.

## Listen, I Am A Communist

By DON WEBB

I am a Communist. A Red. Do you, voters of the South, know me? Do you understand me? Do you believe the lies? Do you think about me? You farmers, share croppers, renters, factory workers, negroes, poor whites, do you understand me? Do you see? That I am you? That I, the Communist, am you? I am Don Webb, too. The poet. The working man. But this poet is a cry for justice.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 11/19/02 BY 2014

# INFORMATION FROM THE FILES OF THE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/9/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PAK

(Don L. West now lives in Dalton. He is editor of The Southerner of which he is also co-publisher with C. T. Pratt. The following is exact information from the files of the Committee on Un-American Activities and was copied in Washington for Cong. Henderson Lanham, of the Georgia Seventh District.)

DATE: May 3, 1955

FOR: Honorable Henderson Lanham, M. C.

SUBJECT: Donald L. West

The public records, files and publications of this Committee contain the following information concerning the subject individual. This report should not be construed as representing the results of an investigation by or findings of this Committee. It should be noted that the individual is not necessarily a Communist, a Communist sympathizer, or a fellow-traveler unless otherwise indicated.

In testimony of Mr. John P. Frey, President, Metal Trades Department, American Federation of Labor, before the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in August 1938, the following information was submitted for the record:

"Don West, Louisville, Ky. This man, formerly in charge of Atlanta, Ga., for Communist Party, is a preacher and a graduate of Vanderbilt University. He sneaked out of Atlanta on a truck, under a load of gunny sacks, when Assistant Solicitor General Hutson swore out warrants for his arrest. After a short period in New York City, he was sent to Kentucky and there made organizer. It had been reported on numerous occasions that he was a part-time employee of the Textile Workers Union, a C. I. O. affiliate, and at the same time was district organizer of District No. 23, Communist Party. (Public Hearings, Special Committee, Volume 1, page 128.)

In a list of leading State officials of the Communist Party, U. S. A., submitted for the record in connection with testimony of Mr. Walter S. Steele before the Special Committee. In another

publication, he was identified as a (Communist) Party organizer in the South, scheduled to speak at a mass meeting in Boston, Mass. The Daily Worker of May 14, 1947 (page 11) reported that Don West was "a Baptist minister" and "formerly superintendent of a school at Tula, (sic) Georgia," now on the faculty of Oglethorpe University. Samuel Sillen wrote in his article entitled "Behind the Ivy Curtain," which was published in Masses & Mainstream for March 1949 (page 7) that Don West of Oglethorpe was dismissed "for Wallace activity."

In 1936, Don West of Louisville, Kentucky, was State Organizer for the Workers Alliance of Kentucky as shown in the Daily Worker of October 5, 1936 (page 3, column 3), and September 14, 1936 (page 3). The Special Committee cited the Workers Alliance as "among the successes in front movements (of) the Communists." (Report of January 3, 1939, also cited in reports of January 3, 1940; June 25, 1942; and March 29, 1944); the Attorney General cited it as "Communist penetrated organization" and as subversive and Communist (Congressional Record, September 24, 1942, page 7684, and press releases of December 4, 1947 and September 21, 1948) also included in consolidated list released April 1, 1954.

According to the Daily Worker of October 5, 1936 (page 3), Don West endorsed Earl Browder (General Secretary of the Communist Party) for President of the United States on the Communist Party ticket.

On July 11, 1942, an Open Letter was addressed to the President of the United States by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, urging reconsideration of Attorney General Biddle's order to deport Harry Bridges; the letter also stated that "It is equally essential that the Attorney General's ill-advised

in Georgia, where Don West's recent book of verse, 'Clods of Southern Earth' is under fire. The forms of persecution may be different, but the purpose is the same. It is to outlaw progressive literature in America. Don West's excellent volume of verse attacks the white supremacists and speaks up for the workingman. Don West is a Baptist minister who was formerly superintendent of schools at Tula, (sic) Georgia, and is at present on the faculty of Oglethorpe University. A people's poet of stature, West has fought vigorously against the Talmadge forces in his state. In his poetry he movingly expresses the striving of the poor people of the South Negro and White, for democracy and decency. He is a genuine force. Liberal-minded ministers, teachers and editors of the state are rallying to his defense. A committee has been formed and funds are being raised. The defense of Don West requires our utmost support." Another article in defense of Don West's 'Clods of Southern Earth' appeared in the Daily Worker on May 14, 1947 (page 11) written by John Hudson Jones.

On the back cover of Political Affairs (a monthly magazine devoted to the theory and practice of Marxism-Leninism) for November 1946, announcement was made of a "new Marxist literary quarterly that will provide a forum for the most significant American writing today, to be known as 'Mainstream.' Information is furnished to the effect that Samuel Sillen will edit the publication and that "Don West, the other leaders in the field of the literary arts, comprise the Editorial Board."

On May 6, 1949, Paul Crouch testified before the Committee on Un-American Activities that "I first met Don West in North Carolina in July or August 1934 when he was sent by the central committee to act as central director. He acted in that capacity one year, using the name of Jim Weaver. During this time he headed the Burlington Defense Committee. He was released from

100-20396-142

# HERE ARE THE TOP TWO CONTRIBUTING EDITORS OF THE SOUTHERNER, PUBLISHED BY DON WEST AND C. T. PRATT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BSK

THIS IS OFFICIAL INFORMATION FROM THE FILES OF THE COMMITTEE UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES, FURNISHED THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF CONG. HENDERSON LANHAM:

## AUBREY WILLIAMS

The Communist publication, the Daily Worker of May 20, 1947 (page 5), named Aubrey Williams as one of those who signed a statement of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare; he was identified as publisher of the Southern Farmer, Montgomery, Alabama. According to the Worker (Sunday edition of the Daily Worker) for October 19, 1947 (page 3), Mr. Williams was Chairman of the Alabama Chapter of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare; he also participated in the Second Southern Conference for Human Welfare which was held at Chattanooga, Tennessee, April 14-16, 1940 (see the Call to a Second Southern Conference . . .). He contributed to the Southern Patriot, official organ of the Southern Conference . . . as shown by the issue of that publication for September 1947 (page 5).

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare has been cited as a Communist-front organization which received money from the Robert Marshall Foundation, one of the principal sources of funds by which many Communist fronts operate; and it "seeks to attract Southern liberals on the basis of its seeming interest in the problems of the South." (Report 1311 of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities dated March 29, 1944; and Report No. 592 of the Committee on Un-American Activities dated June 12, 1947, respectively.)

Mr. Williams was one of the sponsors of the National Conference of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, held in Cleveland, Ohio, October 25 and 26, 1947, as shown on the printed program and the Call to the Conference. The American Committee for . . . has been cited as "one of the oldest auxiliaries of the Communist Party in the United States" (report of the special Committee . . . dated March 29, 1944; also report dated June 25, 1942); the Attorney General of the United States cited the organization as subversive and Communist (letter to the Loyalty Review Board, released to the press June 1 and September 21, 1948; it was redesignated by Attorney General Brownell April 27, 1953, pursuant to Executive Order No. 10450, consolidated list compiled by the Attorney General April 1, 1954).

In the Daily Worker of September 12, 1947 (pages 2 and 12), we find that "Aubrey Williams, former head of the National Youth Administration, attacked the steady effort . . ."

## ALVA TAYLOR

The following reference to Alva W. Taylor is from testimony of Benjamin Gitlow in public hearings of the Committee July 7, 1953 (pp. 2132-33):

"The April 1946 issue of the bulletin (Social Questions Bulletin, official publication of the Methodist Federation for Social Action) is also revealing in other respects. The lead article, 'The Utopia of Jesus,' was written by Alva W. Taylor, who has a long Communist-front record. He signed the letter of the American Council on Soviet Relations, a Communist front, calling upon the President to declare war on Finland, as demanded by the Soviet Union and the Communist Party. He signed a Communist appeal in 1943 calling for the dissolution of the Dies Committee. He was an editorial adviser of the Protestant, notorious Communist magazine serving as an instrument for the Communist infiltration of religion. He was a sponsor of the Communist People's Institute of Applied Religion, together with many well-known Communist leaders and with such Methodist Federation stalwarts as Charles C. Webber, Jack McMichael, and Dr. Harry F. Webb. Prof. Alva W. Taylor also signed an appeal to Governor Dewey, calling upon him to grant a pardon to a Communist professor, who was convicted of perjury and sent to prison. In addition, Taylor, a professor of Christian social ethics at Vanderbilt University, served as the secretary-treasurer of the Communist-dominated Southern Conference for Human Welfare."

In his article in the bulletin, Professor Taylor advocates changing the church into an instrument primarily organized to promote social reform. He insists that the church be more than a school for Christian living by converting it into "the advance guard of new and untried ideas. The Communists, too, consider themselves the advance guard of revolution of new and untried ideas. Professor Taylor advocates turning the church into a political organization, which would make politics a means of minor."

A letterhead of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born named Alva W. Taylor as a sponsor of the group. (Letterhead, December 11 and 12, 1948.) He signed a statement against denaturalization as shown by the "Daily Worker" of August 10, 1950 (p. 5). He signed a statement in behalf of deportees as shown by the "Daily Worker," December 25, 1950 (p. 1). A letterhead, "Clergymen Condemn Deportations,"

The Committee on Un-American Activities, in its report on the organization, December 7, 1950, cited the National Committee to Defeat the Mundt Bill as "a registered lobbying organization which has carried out the objectives of the Communist Party in its fight against anti-subversive legislation."

A pamphlet, "How to End the Cold War and Build the Peace" (page 9) gave the name of Alva W. Taylor, Tennessee, as a signer of the statement in praise of Wallace's open letter to Stalin, May 1948, which was sponsored by the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship. Citation of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship is found in a report of the Special Committee, dated March 29, 1944, as follows: "In recent months, the Communist Party's principal front for all things Russian has been known as the National Council. . . . The Attorney General cited the National Council as subversive and Communist (press releases of December 4, 1947, and September 21, 1948; also included on consolidated list released April 1, 1954)."

Alva W. Taylor signed an Open Letter of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, addressed to the President of the United States, dated July 11, 1942, urging him to reconsider the order of Attorney General Biddle for deportation of Harry Bridges; the letter also stated that "it is equally essential that the Attorney General's ill-advised, arbitrary, and unwarranted findings relative to the Communist Party be rescinded." The Open Letter was published by the National Federation . . . September 11, 1942, in pamphlet form, under the title "600 Prominent Americans Ask President to Rescind Biddle Decision." The names of those who signed the Open Letter were also included in the pamphlet, Alva W. Taylor being identified as Secretary-Treasurer, Southern Conference for Human Welfare, Nashville, Tennessee. (See page 30 of the pamphlet.) The information also appeared in the Daily Worker of July 19, 1942. He signed the National Federation's January 1943 Message to the U. S. House of Representatives, as shown on a leaflet attached to an undated letterhead of the group. The Daily Worker of March 18, 1945 (page 3) and an undated leaflet entitled " . . . the only sound policy FOR A DEMOCRACY . . ." showed that he signed a statement sponsored by the National Federation . . . hailing the War Department's order on commissions for Communists.

The Attorney General cited the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties as an organization by which "Communists attempt to

# Don West Joins Dalton's Brother Pratt As Preacher, Editor, Right-Hand Man

By MARGARET SHANNON

DALTON — Don West, the Georgia poet, professor and preacher whose name has often been linked on official records with Communist activities, is a publisher and editor these days.

He is living in Dalton, editing a monthly paper called The Southerner. He is associated in the enterprise with the Rev. C. T. Pratt, who was cochairman of the Wallace-for-President movement in Georgia in 1948.

Last October, according to Brother Pratt, he received a letter from Brother West asking about the possibility of being accepted as a preacher in the Pratt denomination, which is known as the Church of God of the Union Assembly.

## OWNS BUILDING

So Don West is a preacher in the Pratt denomination now. He lives in rooms in the dining hall of the church. The printing shop of The Southerner is a concrete block annex to a big new grocery store on the Chatsworth road. The Pratt denomination owns the whole building and leases the store part.

Brother Pratt has an air-conditioned office in a little red brick building close by. His residence, also air-conditioned, is in the same neighborhood. It is easy to find because he has a neon

sign in the front yard that says, "C. T. Pratt's Home."

I went out to see Mr. West and Mr. Pratt a few days after the Dalton News had published a full page of information about Mr. West from the files of the House Un-American Activities Committee. The dates mentioned go back as far as 20 years, when The Daily Worker named Don West as a member of the Communist Party and an organizer for the party in Kentucky.

We went into Brother Pratt's air-conditioned office, and it was very apparent that the 76-year-old preacher was going to do most of the talking. What he said most often was: "I'm not a Communist. I'm not a Catholic. I'm a full-blooded American."

Brother West's credo was a little differently stated. He said: "I am not a Communist. I'm a Christian, a humble follower of Jesus Christ."

I asked Mr. West if he intended to stay in Dalton, and before he could answer, Brother Pratt had scooted his swivel chair over close to the divan where I was sitting.

## SWISH OF AIR

Before I could even look around, I felt a swish of air close to my face and heard the

pop of Mr. Pratt's hands as he slapped them together. "Of course he's gonna stay," the preacher shouted. He repeated the gesture three or four times and the shout also.

When Brother Pratt had calmed down a little, he said he thought Brother West had made mistakes in the past, but hadn't everybody. He said he'd even made some.

Mr. Pratt said he has been in Dalton 30 years. He said he is concerned about the poor people. The Southerner said in its June issue that it is "devoted to the cause of the poor and common people."

I asked Mr. West what effect the Dalton paper's publication of the record on him had seemed to have. "I was at the church service that night," he said, "and it seemed to me that we had more unity than ever before."

Brother Pratt said he would do business with anybody, including infidels and Jews. He didn't care if they were infidels. He said he preaches destruction of the world by fire and brimstone, but as well as I could gather, members of the Church of God of the Union Assembly will escape.

Mr. Pratt is a big operator, and Don West evidently has become his right-hand man.

THE ATLANTA JOURNAL  
AUGUST 29 1955

b6  
b7C

— EDITOR  
DONALD LEE WEST — SM — C  
Atlanta File # 100-559  
Bureau File # 100-20396

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BK

65 SEP 14 1955

NOT RECORDED  
125 SEP 1955

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols *nm*

DATE: September 29, 1955

FROM : M. A. Jones *2*ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

SUBJECT: MARK PACE

Editor

The Dalton Citizen and The Dalton News  
116 East Crawford Street  
Dalton, Georgia

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Harbo	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Sizoo	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

The Director received the attached letter from Pace with which he enclosed clippings from his newspapers concerning Donald Lee West, Alva W. Taylor and Aubrey W. Williams. He advised that he was "currently engaged in quite a campaign against Don West, who came here last winter and began a little monthly newspaper. We obtained from the House Committee on Un-American Activities his Communist background." He stated he wanted information on West, Taylor and Williams and specifically information showing West was a Communist Party member since 1953. The 1953 date is pertinent in regard to West inasmuch as a Georgia law makes it unlawful for a person residing in that state to be a member of the CP.

We have had limited cordial correspondence with Pace concerning articles and editorials which have appeared in his paper. (94-42940)

Bufile 100-20396 reflects that Donald Lee West has a long history of CP and related activities. The Party membership can be documented from the "Daily Worker", an East Coast Communist newspaper. He was removed from the Security Index, Atlanta in June, 1955, and there has been no indication of CP activities on his part since 1950. There is no public source information showing CP or related activities on the part of West subsequent to 1950. The "Daily Worker" contained numerous references to West in the past including:

The March 13, 1934, issue, which issue contained a poem by West in which he admitted CP membership. (Pace has the entire poem and published it in the September 8, 1955, issue of his paper.) The November 1, 1935, and June 22, 1937, issues of the "Daily Worker" reflected West to be a CP organizer for the State of Kentucky. The July 20, 1936, issue reflected West to be a member of the 1936 National Campaign Committee, CP, for the State of Kentucky. (Pace also has this information).

Enclosures (2)

cc - Mr. Nichols

RECORDED - 72

13 OCT 7 1955

EX - 107

CRANDALL

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-20396-143

TEP  
TED:mbk

(3)

62 OCT 11 1955

September 29, 1955

Pace enclosed an entire sheet from the August 21, 1955, issue of his paper which he stated contained information from the files of the HCUA. This information includes much public source data and actually contains the testimony of individuals naming West as a former CP official.

Bufiles reflect that Ralph McGill, Editor, "Atlanta Constitution," in his column dated July 7, 1948, identified West as a committee member from Georgia to the People's Institute of Applied Religion for 1947. This organization has been cited by the Attorney General.

Bufile 100-403941 reflects that Alva Wilmont Taylor is the subject of a closed Security Matter - C investigation, Office of origin, Memphis, and is not on the Security Index. The December 10, 1952, issue of the "Daily Worker" contains an article captioned "280 National Leaders Ask Truman Amnesty Jailed Communists." Taylor's name, among others, is listed in this article as a signer of the appeal requesting of the President to grant amnesty to the leaders of the CP who were convicted under the Smith Act. (100-3-A) The April 29, 1953, issue of the "Daily Worker" lists Taylor as a sponsor for 1953 of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, which has been cited by the Attorney General.

Pace enclosed a clipping from his newspaper which contained considerable information from the HCUA regarding Taylor. This information reflects Taylor was affiliated <sup>with</sup> and a member of many front organizations.

Bufile 100-52504 on Aubrey Willis Williams reflects that he is the subject of a Security Matter - C investigation, Mobile Office of Origin, and not on the Security Index. Williams testified before the U. S. Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on March 19, 1954, at New Orleans. He identified himself as President of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated. This organization succeeded the Southern Conference for Human Welfare which was cited by the HCUA as a Communist front. Williams denied CP membership but did admit he was formerly affiliated with the Civil Rights Congress cited by the Attorney General. Paul Crouch, a former Communist and who was at that time a consultant for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, testified before the above committee that he had been told that Williams was a secret member of the CP although he, Crouch, had no such knowledge of this membership.

Pace enclosed a clipping from his paper dated September 18, 1955, which contained much information concerning Williams and his affiliation with front groups. This included public source information.

As pointed out above, Pace specifically requested information showing West as a CP member subsequent to 1953. We do not have this information. We have no information showing West as affiliated with the CP or front groups subsequent to 1950. He was removed from the Security Index in Atlanta, June, 1955, due to inactivity on his part.

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

September 29, 1955

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the attached letter be sent to Pace and that the SAC, Atlanta, contact Pace and explain to him the Bureau's position regarding his inquiry. The SAC should be instructed to furnish Pace with the above public source information and refer him to the National Americanism Commission of The American Legion, and to the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee for possible assistance.

✓      [Signature]

September 30, 1955

AIRMAIL

RECORDED - 72

EX. - 107

100 - 10376 - 144  
Mr. Mark Pace  
Editor  
The Dalton Citizen  
116 East Crawford Street  
Dalton, Georgia

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

Dear Mr. Pace:

Your letter of September 21, 1955, with  
enclosures, has been received.

I appreciate your interest in writing and in  
furnishing me with this information. In regard to your request,  
I am instructing one of my representatives of our office at  
Room 533, 805 Peachtree Street, Atlanta 8, Georgia, to  
contact you in the immediate future.

You may be sure I am deeply grateful for  
your generous comments.

COMM - FBI

OCT - 4 1955

MAILED 24

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

cc - Atlanta, with copy of incoming.

ATTENTION SAC: Your attention is directed to the September 8, 1955,  
issue of Pace's paper, "The Dalton Citizen," and to pages 12 and 16 of "The  
Dalton News" issues of August 21 and September 8, 1955. All of these issues

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_ contain much public source information relating to West, Taylor and Williams.  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_ Pace obtained this information from the House Committee on Un-American  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_ Activities. Bufiles reflect, in addition, that Ralph McGill, Editor,  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_ Follow-up \_\_\_\_\_ October 13, 1955. *Letter to Mr. J. TED*  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_ NOTE: See Jones to Nichols memorandum dated September 29, 1955,  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_ captioned "Mark Pace, Editor, The Dalton Citizen and The Dalton News,  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_ 116 East Crawford Street, Dalton, Georgia." TED:mbk (ALSO MEMO  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_ TED:nma:mbk

(7)

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-403941-52504-1

Letter to Mr. Mark Pace

September 30, 1955

ATTENTION SAC:

"The Atlanta Constitution," named West, in his column of July 7, 1948, as a committee member from Georgia to the People's Institute of Applied Religion for 1947. The December 10, 1952, issue of the "Daily Worker" contains an article captioned "280 National Leaders Ask Truman Amnesty Jailed Communists." Taylor's name, among others, is listed in this article as a signer of the appeal requesting of the President to grant amnesty to the leaders of the Communist Party who were convicted under the Smith Act. The April 29, 1953, issue of the "Daily Worker" lists Taylor as a sponsor for 1953 of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, which has been cited by the Attorney General. Bufiles also reflect that Williams testified before the U. S. Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on March 19, 1954, at New Orleans. He identified himself as President of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated. This organization succeeded the Southern Conference for Human Welfare which was cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities as a Communist front. Williams denied Communist Party membership but did admit he was formerly affiliated with the Civil Rights Congress, cited by the Attorney General. Paul Crouch, a former Communist and who was at that time a consultant for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, testified before the above committee that he had been told that Williams was a secret member of the Communist Party although he, Crouch, had no such knowledge of this membership.

You are authorized to immediately personally contact Mr. Pace, if at all possible. If not, have one of your representatives contact him. You may advise Pace confidentially. "The Atlanta Constitution" item concerning West, the issues of the "Daily Worker" pertaining to Taylor and of Williams' testimony before the Senate Subcommittee in March, 1954. In addition, refer Pace to the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and the Americanism Commission, The American Legion, 1608 K Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C., for further information. Be sure Pace understands that while we would like to be of further assistance to him, we are just unable to do so.

Submit results of your contact with Pace under the caption, "Mark Pace, Editor, The Dalton Citizen and The Dalton News, 116 East Crawford Street, Dalton, Georgia, Research (Crime Records)," to reach the Bureau no later than October 13, 1955.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols *WJ*

DATE: September 30, 1955

FROM : M. A. Jones *g*

SUBJECT: MARK PACE

EDITOR

THE DALTON CITIZEN AND THE DALTON NEWS  
116 EAST CRAWFORD STREET  
DALTON, GEORGIAALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSA/PSK 11-1

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Harbo	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Sizoo	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

Subject, with whom we have had limited cordial correspondence, requested by the attached letter dated September 21, 1955, information concerning Donald Lee West, Alva W. Taylor and Aubrey W. Williams. He stated there is being conducted a campaign against these individuals and particularly West, who came to Georgia last winter to begin a monthly newspaper in his county. He advises this campaign concerns the alleged Communist backgrounds of the three afore-mentioned men. Pace requests information regarding CP and related activities of these individuals and states he has received information from the HCUA regarding the CP background of West and the others (who do not reside in his state.) He remarks that his county's grand jury is going to inquire into their backgrounds when it convenes on October 3.

Bufiles reflect past CP activities of West up to 1950, some of which can be documented from public source material such as the "Daily Worker." Bufiles reflect CP front activities by Taylor, some of which also may be documented by public source data. Williams, who testified before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on March 19, 1954, at New Orleans, is alleged to be a former Communist.

The attached memorandum sets out the details of our information regarding these individuals.

Pace specifically requests information showing West to be a CP member since 1953, which information is not contained in our files.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

RECORDED - 72

1. The attached letter be sent to Pace.

EX-107

13 OCT 7 1955

CRIM. DIV.

2. The SAC, Atlanta, be instructed to contact Pace, apprise him of the Bureau's position on such matters and furnish him the information concerning the public source information available on these individuals. He should also suggest that Pace consult the National Americanism Commission of the American Legion and the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee for possible assistance.

Enclosures (2)

cc Mr. Nichols

JRH:meh

68 OCT 14 1955

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-55874-94 42940

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. T. ☐  
Mr. B. ☐  
Mr. N. ☐  
Mr. E. ☐  
Mr. H. ☐  
Mr. M. ☐  
Mr. P. ☐  
Mr. R. ☐  
Mr. T. ☐  
Mr. S. ☐  
Mr. W. ☐  
Mr. L. ☐  
Mr. H. ☐  
Mr. R. ☐  
Mr. T. ☐

FBI, ATLANTA (100-559) 10/6/55  
Transmit the following Teletype message to:  
DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

The enclosed article obtained from "The Atlanta Constitution" of 10/4/55 captioned "Jury in Dalton to Investigate Red Activity", is submitted for the Bureau's information as it obviously pertains to the subject. The Bureau has previously been informed that subject has been in Dalton, Ga. publishing "The Southerner" since March, 1955. There has been some controversy and articles appearing in "The Dalton News" and "The Dalton Citizen", bi-weekly newspapers in the Dalton area, concerning the past activities and background information of WEST. This controversy was highlighted in the publication in "The Dalton News" edition of Sunday, 8/21/55, Page 12, an article captioned "Information From the Files of the Committee on Un-American Activities U. S. House of Representatives". Immediately under this heading appears the following: "(DON L. WEST now lives in Dalton. He is editor of 'The Southerner' of which he is also co-publisher with C. T. PRATT. The following is exact information from the files of the Committee on Un-American Activities and was copied in Washington for Cong. HENDERSON LANHAM, of the Georgia Seventh District:)" The controversy has centered around the subject, his affiliation with the Church of God of the Union Assembly, and Rev. C. T. PRATT, National Moderator of the Church of God of the Union Assembly. PRATT has given his full support to WEST.

This controversy has been intermingled with criticism of the Church of God of the Union Assembly, the Roman Catholic Church and efforts to organize labor in the Dalton chenille industry, and numerous articles have been written in the above papers including the publishing of the subject's poem "I Am A Communist".

In an article appearing in "The Atlanta Journal" of 9/9/55, Page 15, entitled "Union Asks Probe of Dalton Firings", the following information was noted: "The CIO Textile Workers Union has charged that a Dalton, Ga., rug factory fired 28 employees for belonging to the Church of God." This article

CPR:eer  
(4)  
Encl. 1 ENCL.

5 OCT 25 1955

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

100-20396

7 OCT 8 1955

Sent

Per

SUBV. CONTROL  
CONSOLIDATION  
10/12/55

1 AutoStat  
UNRECORDED  
COPY MADE  
100-20396-1

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AT 100-559

Page 2

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

further reflects that a Union representative in Washington had directed a letter to Senator HENNINGS stating that the Lawtex Corp. had circulated a new application among its 500 employees and thereafter had terminated 28 employees who states on their forms that they belonged to the Church of God of the Union Assembly. This letter requested that Senator HENNINGS as Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights, conduct an investigation.

The Bureau's attention is called to the letter by MARK PACE written to the Director, dated 9/21/55, enclosing some of the above mentioned clippings.

MUMFORD

END

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

## Jury in Dalton To Investigate Red Activity

By JIMMY WALKER

Constitution Staff Writer

DALTON, Oct. 3—Judge J. H. Pascall Monday charged a Whitfield County grand jury to investigate reports of subversive activities and violence in Dalton.

In a terse statement to the jury, the Cherokee Circuit judge also touched on:

1. Dynamiting last week of the front yard of Bob Ewell, a plant manager. The blast followed an alleged demonstration against a salesman at the General Latex Corp. Workers at the plant have been on strike three weeks.

2. A jailbreak Sunday by three desperadoes who left policeman Tom Crowe critically stabbed.

Judge Pascall told the jury, "You are free agents to investigate anything you wish. From reports in the press, there are some things that ought to be investigated."

He referred to the Georgia Subversives Control Act as he continued. "The papers say there may be subversive organizations or members in Dalton."

The Georgia law makes it unlawful to belong to an organization that advocates violent overthrow of the U.S. government or to aid in such a plan.

Mark Pace, editor of the Dalton Citizen and Dalton News, was called before the grand jury for an hour Monday afternoon. Although he took no records into the jury room, he confirmed that discussions were about the papers' stories on communism.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BK

The Atlanta Constitution  
Ralph McGill, Editor  
Tuesday - October 4, 1955  
Page 29, Col. 1

ENCLOSURE

100-20396-145

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. ED-36  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

FBI, ATLANTA (100-559) 10/7/55  
Transmit the following Teletype message to:

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DONALD LEE WEST

SM - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP/ GSK/PSK

Re Atlanta airtel, 10/6/55.

Former SA GEORGE P. DILLARD, Special Assistant to the Attorney General in Charge of Enforcement of the Georgia Anti-Subversive Act, on 10/7/55 made available the enclosed clipping obtained from "The Dalton Citizen", a bi-weekly newspaper of Dalton, Ga., captioned "BUNDY Says FBI Agents Named WEST", which is an article concerning the Whitfield Grand Jury investigation.

Edgar C. Bundy, Ga.

DILLARD stated that he believes that the controversy in Dalton between the newspapers and DONALD LEE WEST is really a labor-management argument. He stated that the chenille industry in Dalton controls the city and as such have MARK PACE, Editor of "The Dalton News", and "The Dalton Citizen", "in their hip pocket". He stated that there has been a legitimate effort to unionize some workers in the chenille industry and that he does not believe these Union activities are a result of efforts on the part of WEST or the Church of God of the Union Assembly. DILLARD advised that in view of labor and management dispute and religious issues being involved in this controversy, he has held all State investigation to an absolute minimum in this area.

The Atlanta indices are negative concerning EDGAR C. BUNDY.

In view of the statement contained in enclosed article which states "He said he also told the jurors that two close friends of his, who joined the Communist Party in Ohio as undercover agents for the FBI several years ago had told him about several Communists, including DON WEST, whom he said was an active member of the party, and whom was labeled as a 'dangerous man'", the Bureau may wish to have BUNDY interviewed to ascertain who his sources of information are, as they may be active security informants.

Mr. Belmont

MUMFORD

7 OCT 8 1955

END

CPR:eer (4)

Approved: 10/10/55

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

1 AutoStat copy  
UNCLAS

# Bundy Says FBI Agents

## Grand Jury Gets Surprise Visitor Tues.

## Grand Jury

green light to investigate such reports.

"You are free agents to investigate anything at anytime in the county, and from recent reports there are some things that need investigating here in Dalton," Paschall said.

Judge Paschall called to the attention of the jurors a law passed by the General Assembly in 1953 which outlaws any political party or faction that advocates the overthrow by violence of the government.

The judge mentioned the Sunday jail break in which a veteran law enforcement officer was badly stabbed and the Friday morning blast of dynamite which was set off on a lawn in a residential section of Dalton.

"Things like these are bad and it is your duty to investigate such matters," Judge Paschall said.

It was not known Wednesday noon just when the grand jury would adjourn, nor how far it had gone into its investigation about the matters mentioned above.

A tourist who has made an extensive study of Communism and the Communist pattern of infiltration, paid Whitfield County grand jury a surprise visit Tuesday.

He was Edgar C. Bundy, of Wheaton, Ill., who has held leading positions with the Illinois American Legion's Americanism Committee and its Anti-Subversive Commission. He was in the grand jury room for more than an hour.

After he left the room, Bundy talked freely with newsmen about his visit and why he went by the courthouse to tell the grand jury his story.

He said he also told the jurors two close friends of his, who joined the Communist Party in Ohio as undercover agents for the FBI several years ago, had told him about several Communists, including Don West, whom he said was an active member of the party, and whom was labeled as a "dangerous man."

Bundy also declared that under existing laws it is extremely difficult for any person to be found guilty of being a Communist. He pointed out that the best protection for America is an informed people who would recognize the names of Communist-associated individuals and who know what Communism is and its method of infiltration.

"For every known Communist there are 10 fellow travelers who are not known nor identified. They are equally dangerous," Bundy warned.

Bundy told a newsman that he and his wife were enroute from Wheaton to Miami to attend the national convention of the American Legion.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)  
ican Legion. While eating breakfast Tuesday morning in a restaurant in Jasper, Tenn., he was reading the Chattanooga Times when he saw the front page story about the grand jury charge by Judge James H. Paschall to investigate alleged Communist patterns in Dalton.

The Dalton News, which along with the Dalton Citizen had been publishing records showing the Communist-affiliated background of Don West, had asked in an editorial that the grand jury investigate the matter and also invited the jurors to inspect the data published about West. The News pointed out that what had been published about West could be verified.

Reading the story in the Times, Bundy said he immediately recognized the name of Don West and that as an American citizen he felt it his duty to voluntarily present himself before the grand jury and testify the things he had learned during the years of his personal investigation.

Bundy, a lecturer, journalist and research analyst, spent seven years in the Air Force in intelligence work. He is a former editor of his hometown paper, the Daily Journal.

He presently is serving on the National Legion Foreign Relations Committee. Bundy is a member of Post 76, Wheaton.

### PASCHALL'S CHARGE TO THE GRAND JURY

In his charge to the Whitfield County grand jury Monday morning, Judge J. H. Paschall cited press reports of alleged "subversive organizations or members of subversive organizations in Whitfield County" and gave the group

THE DALTON CITIZEN  
Dalton, Ga.

MARK PACE - Editor  
October 6, 1955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PBK

ENCLOSURE

100-20396-146

DALTON CITIZEN  
10-6-55



Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

ACTION:

(1) In view of the labor-management and religious issues involved in the controversy between Dalton, Ga., newspapers and Donald West, the questionable reliability of Edgar C. Bundy, and since Bufile re Donald West reflects Bundy's sources are probably Martha and John Edmiston, discontinued Cincinnati security informants, recommend Bundy not be contacted to identify his sources.

✓

(2) Memo M. A. Jones to Mr. L. B. Nichols dated 9/29/55 captioned "Mark Pace, Editor, The Dalton Citizen and The Dalton News, 116 East Crawford St., Dalton, Ga.," reflects Pace obtained West's Communist background from HCUA and published same in his newspaper. Recommend this memorandum and Atlanta airtels dated 10/6/55 and 10/7/55 be routed to Assistant to the Director Nichols for his information.

✓

93-1  
1004

for review  
JAN 1956

JB STM

AMH

AMH

RECORDED-61  
INDEXED-61

SAC, Atlanta

October 12, 1955

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

MR. MARK PACE  
EDITOR  
THE DALTON CITIZEN  
116 EAST CRAWFORD STREET  
DALTON, GEORGIA  
(RESEARCH CRIME RECORDS)

ReBulet to Pace dated September 30, 1955.

The Bureau has received another communication from Pace dated October 8, concerning the matter to which he referred in his original communication. A copy of his original communication was furnished you along with Bureau letter to Pace dated September 30.

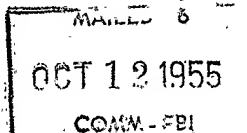
For your information, the Bureau is not acknowledging instant incoming, October 8, 1955. Copies of it are being forwarded to you for your information, and you will note that he states that he is looking forward to being contacted by the Atlanta Office. If Pace has not been contacted in accordance with the Bureau's instructions furnished you by Bulet of 9-30, you are instructed to expedite this contact. Sulet results immediately.

Enclosures (2)

NOTE: See Jones to Nichols Memo dated September 29, 1955, captioned "Mark Pace, Editor, The Dalton Citizen and The Dalton News, 116 East Crawford Street, Dalton, Georgia." TED:mbk

The Atlanta Office has been instructed to contact Pace, and, inasmuch as the Bureau has received no reply regarding this contact, it is not deemed advisable to answer this letter from Pace, but it is felt that copies should be furnished Atlanta for their information.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



71 OCT 26 1955

100-53509-  
42940-  
UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 94-42940-  
74 copies with 133

# The Dalton Citizen

Published Thursdays

## THE DALTON NEWS

Published Sundays

116 EAST CRAWFORD ST.

P. O. BOX 222

GEORGIA'S TWO LARGEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D.c.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

We were certainly pleased to receive your letter in answer to my communication relative to Don West, Communism, etc., in our community which now exists through the media and under the cover of a holiness church. I look forward to talking to your investigator out of the Atlanta office and trust he will be here perhaps next week.

The grand jury recessed Friday until Tues., Oct. 18, at which time it will again go into the West situation.

A development happened this week in which I think you will be interested. West has scheduled Aubrey Williams (Southern Conference for Human Welfare, former head of National Youth Administration, worker American Youth Congress, etc., with long lists in cumulative index, Home Committee on Un-American Activities) to speak before a mass gathering of church folk from about 10 or 12 states at Dalton, Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m.

The meeting is in conjunction with annual fall assembly of Church of God of Union Assembly of which C.T. Pratt, Dalton, is moderator. He has ordained West as one of his ministers, and he and West are co-publishers of a radical, hate-provoking monthly propaganda sheet, The Southerner. Aubrey Williams and Dr. Alva W. Taylor are listed in the newspaper masthead as "contributing editors." GA

I thought perhaps this bit of additional information might be of interest, and certainly it should help to draw a clearer picture of the Communist pattern operations in our community.

Sincerely yours,

Mark Pace, editor

OCT 10 1955

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Parsons  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Sizoo  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

DALTON, GEORGIA  
Oct. 8, 1955

100-20396

100-52504

RECORDED-61

INDEXED-61

EX-107

12 OCT 18 1955

EX-107

10-11-55  
APK

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Sizoo	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

FBI, Atlanta (100-559) AIRTEL  
Transmit the following Teletype message to:

10/26/55

Director, FBI (100-20396)

DONALD LEE WEST, wa.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Remyairtels 10/6/55 and 10/7/55.

Enclosed are clippings from the "Dalton News", Dalton, Ga., 10/23/55, and the "Dalton Citizen", Dalton, Ga., 10/20/55. The enclosed article from the "Dalton News" of 10/23/55 reflects that WEST testified before the Whitfield County Grand Jury on 10/20/55.

The enclosed newspaper article from the "Dalton Citizen" on 10/20/55 reflects that EDGAR C. BUNDY, who was described as a high-ranking American Legion official challenged the subject to voluntarily appear before the HCUA and deny under oath the record against him. This address by BUNDY was given before listeners in the American Legion Hall, Dalton, Ga., and to a radio audience. In this address BUNDY stated that "several years ago two friends of his, MARTHA and JOHN EDMINSTON, who joined the Ohio Communist Party as FBI undercover agents, told him of a number of members of the Party". BUNDY stated WEST was one of those.

Referenced airtel dated 10/6/55 pointed out that BUNDY had previously stated to the Grand Jury of Whitfield County that two close friends of his (unnamed) had joined the CP in Ohio as undercover agents of the FBI several years ago. BUNDY was probably referring to JOHN and MARTHA EDMINSTON as reported in the article appearing in the "Dalton Citizen", 10/20/55.

For the information of the Bureau, also appearing on Page 1 of the "Dalton News" edition 10/23/55, is an article captioned "HOOVER BLASTS AT PHONY LIBERALS WHO DEFEND WORK OF COMMUNISTS IN U. S.". It is also noted that enclosed article concerning WEST's appearance before the Whitfield Grand Jury appears on Page 1 of the "Dalton News", 10/23/55. The article concerning the Director's speech given to the International Association of Chiefs of Police as it appears in the "Dalton News"

CPR:jjt

(4) Encls. (2)

REGISTERED MAIL

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

12 OCT 28 1955

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

SUBV. CONTROL

Mr. Belmont

Special Agent in Charge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BK

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Page 2 - AT 100-559

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

Director, FBI (100-20396)

has no connection with the subject. This article has been submitted to crime records.

The enclosed articles are submitted for the Bureau's information, inasmuch as BUNDY had previously made reference to FBI informants who had furnished him information.

MUMFORD

CC: MR. BELMONT  
~~AND SUPERVISOR~~  
DOM. INTEL. DIVISION

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

# West is Challenged to Deny Charges Before Committee

## Bundy Gives Talk Outlining Means of Red Infiltration

In a forceful conclusion to an hour-long address on the infiltration operation of Communism, Edgar C. Bundy, high-ranking American Legion official, challenged Don West to voluntarily appear before the Committee on Un-American Activities and deny, under oath, the record against him.

"The people of Dalton and Whitfield County should be aware and alert to any man with such a record that comes into the community. He should not be received as a citizen in the county or the state unless he has appeared before the committee to deny the charges and clear his name," Bundy told his listeners in American Legion hall, and to the radio audience.

He recalled that several years ago two friends of his, Martha and John Edminston, who joined the Ohio Communist Party as FBI undercover agents, told him of a number of members of the party. One of those, he said, was Don West, and when he read in a newspaper of the Don West exposure here, the name "rang a bell with me."

The report of the FBI undercover agents is a matter of public record. "Let Don West go before the Committee and call the FBI agents liars, if he dare!" Bundy declared.

At the time the FBI reported West as a party worker, he was minister of a church in Bethel, Ohio, Bundy said.

Bundy, a captain in the Air Force Reserve where he served for seven years as an intelligence officer, was guest speaker at the meeting sponsored by the Legion in cooperation with the VFW. He has served on the Legion's Department of Illinois Americanism Committee and its Anti-Subversive Commission. He has devoted several years of study and research to Communism and the Karl Marx theory and is appearing on programs throughout the United States in an effort to tell the people something about Communism and how it is dangerously infiltrating this country.

(Continued on page 2)

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DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

THE DALTON CITIZEN  
Dalton, Georgia  
MARK PACE - Editor  
October 20, 1955  
Page 1

ENCLOSURE

100-20 396-177

## Bundy

(Continued from page 1)

He declared that a man does not have to be a card-carrying Communist nor a member of the Communist Party in order to teach the Communist doctrine. He pointed out that there is no such thing in the United States today as a card-carrying member of the party.

Infiltration is made through Communist "front" organizations, and the Reds are cunningly infiltrating through government agencies, educational systems, religious organizations, labor unions, fields of communications and the fields of entertainment.

"In many instances church and Sunday school literature contain Communist and not spiritual material."

Declaring "It's time our American people awaken to what's happening," Bundy likened the infiltration method to termites that slip in undetected and eat away at a structure, which "is only as strong as the foundation on which it rests."

"Many Americans don't know of infiltration. They are too busy with their own personal activities and making money. Under the guise of religion, education and labor unions, the infiltrators are trying to obtain their goal."

He warned the people that the Communist theory of conspiracy is so vast that people cannot understand it.

"People can go around denying membership in the Communist Party. That doesn't mean a thing. They don't have to be a member to do party work."

Referring to the only Federal legal protection against such activities, the Smith Act, which makes it unlawful to advocate the overthrow by violence or force of the government, Bundy declared that overthrow by infiltration and not violence is the theory under the Karl Marx plan.

"You cannot indict them (under the Smith Act), but you can use

public exposure against them and that is what they dislike."

He referred to the local situation and to The Dalton News and The Dalton Citizen which exposed West's background. "It is scandalous for someone to hide behind the cloak of religion, or to charge that the newspapers smeared them when those newspapers are sticking to the public record."

Citing the first Communist theory as a front that they are for the working people and are working for that class people, Bundy asserted:

"Beware of those people who claim to be for the working people."

"How do they make their living? Where do they get their money?" he asked, referring that those people get their money off the laboring class people and make their living off them.

Bundy cited testimony of FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover in which he declared that there are more Communist workers, fellow-travelers and sympathizers in the United States today than there were in Russia in 1917 when Lenin and his infiltration forces undermined and overthrew the Russian government and established the present Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Hoover estimated there are 25,000 "hard-core" Communists in the United States now, and that for each one of them there are 10 fellow-travelers and sympathizers now active in every phase of American life who are working as conspirators.

Hoover cited three classifications of people who are used in the country today by the Communists to obtain their objectives: 1) Communist Party members; 2) fellow-travelers and sympathizers; and 3) the duped organizations that become Communist fronts and aid in the conspiracy.

Pointing out that "infiltration" is a key word in the Communist system, Bundy asked: "What about those people who do not advocate violent overthrow, but infiltrate into every phase of society and teach the Marx plan?"

Bundy and his wife appeared here enroute to their home in Wheaton, Ill., from Miami where they had attended the national convention of the American

Legion.

In introducing Bundy prior to the address, Tom Minor, commander of local Post 112, recalled that after Bundy returned to this country from the Far East he predicted a year in advance the invasion of South Korea by the Communist North Korean forces and the downfall of a free China to the Chinese Reds.



—Photo by Lloyd Gullledge

**DON WEST**

After he left grand jury room

## **Jury Recesses; West Before Group Thursday**

Whitfield County grand jury recessed Thursday afternoon until after the Bartow County session of Superior Court which begins Monday.

Foreman W. M. Sims said it was not definitely decided when the local jurors would return, depending upon the completion of the Bartow court term.

Mr. Sims said the grand jury is continuing its investigation in the interest and welfare of the people and the community.

Prior to recessing, the jury subpoenaed Don West Thursday afternoon. West, whose record from the files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities has recently been made public here, was in the jury room for more than an hour.

THE DALTON NEWS  
Dalton, Georgia  
MARK PACE - Editor  
October 23, 1955  
Page 1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP1 GSK/PSK

Director, FBI

October 11, 1955

SAC, Atlanta (80-1-1952)

MARK PACE

Editor

The Dalton Citizen and The Dalton News

116 East Crawford Street

Dalton, Georgia

RESEARCH (CRIME RECORDS)

*DONALD LEE WEST*

Reurlet September 30, 1955, to Mr. MARK PACE, acknowledging receipt of a letter from him dated September 21, 1955.

Mr. PACE has been contacted by SA [redacted] Resident Agent who handles that territory and by [redacted]

[redacted] of the Atlanta Office on various occasions.

On September 27, 1955, the last time SA [redacted] was in Dalton, he had occasion to contact Mr. PACE and review the files of Mr. PACE's office, in connection with the case entitled "MISCHA ORTENBERG, IS - R & CANADA", concerning one OTTO EDELSTEIN. During that visit, Mr. PACE brought up the matter of DON WEST and stated that he needed help in securing more current information concerning WEST. He stated that he had run several articles in his papers but all pertained to WEST's activities in past years. He stated then that there was a possibility of a grand jury investigation concerning WEST and that it would be necessary to introduce evidence of more recent activity on the part of WEST if successful grand jury action was to be had. He expressed the hope that the FBI could be of assistance. SA [redacted] explained to him in detail the confidential nature of the FBI files and suggested to him various public sources which could be used in checking on any person. Mr. PACE appeared to fully understand and appreciate our position.

SA [redacted] has advised me that on various occasions Mr. PACE has mentioned the matter of DON WEST and that from Mr. PACE's comments it appears he has already secured all information available from the various sources referred to in your letter of reference; nevertheless, pursuant to your letter of reference SA [redacted] again contacted Mr. PACE on October 10, 1955, and complied with the instructions contained in that letter.

JKM:jdd

100-1-1952  
NOT RECORDED  
29 OCT 19 1955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/24/82 BY SP/CK/PSK

ORIGINAL FILED IN

For the Bureau's confidential information, it appears that Mr. PACE has been carrying on a campaign to get Mr. WEST out of Dalton by exposing him and that this campaign has been quite successful in bringing up the circulation in Mr. PACE's papers and in arousing the local citizenry. It is the impression of the two Agents to whom Mr. PACE has talked, however, that Mr. PACE is now fearful that he has pressed this matter to a point of a grand jury investigation which has no hope of resulting in successful prosecution and that the entire matter may, therefore, backfire on him to his discredit in the community. We will accordingly, be extremely circumspect in our contacts with him in connection with our coverage of DON WEST and any other security matter investigations.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FBI, ATLANTA (100-559)

A I R T E L

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

REGISTERED

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Re Atlanta airtel 10/26/55.

Referenced airtel enclosed a clipping from the "Dalton News", Dalton, Ga. 10/23/55, which reflects that the subject was subpoenaed and testified before the Whitfield County Grand Jury on 10/20/55.

GEORGE P. DILLARD, Special Assistant of the State Attorney General in charge of the Georgia Anti-Subversive Act, advised on 11/14/55 he had obtained information to the effect the subject had declined to answer any questions before the Whitfield County Grand Jury on 10/20/55 and invoked the 5th Amendment of the Constitution as a basis for declining.

MUMFORD

CPR/jaw  
(4)

Mr. Belmont

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RK

RECORDED - 36  
EX-118

100-20396-150

NOV 23 1955

SUBV. CONTROL

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

Per \_\_\_\_\_

NOV 20 1955

FBI

Date: 12/31/55

Transmit the following message via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

To: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DONALD LEE WEST, was.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Enclosed herewith is a news item, which appears in the 12/31/55 edition of the Atlanta Constitution, reporting action which has been taken by the Whitfield County (Georgia) Grand Jury concerning captioned subject.

Since no formal advice has been received by this office concerning this particular matter, no action regarding same is at this time contemplated.

MUMFORD

END

3 - Bureau (100-20396)

1 - Atlanta (100-559)

THD:lcb

(4)

EX-121

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BSK

Mr. Belmont

RECORDED - 91

EX-121

100-20396-151  
8 JAN 4 1956

Approved: 1055

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

TELETYPE

A. M.

A. M. S. D.

COEC. DEL. M

Per

REG. MAIL

REGISTERED

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

# Dalton Jury Urges U.S. Probe West

DALTON, Dec. 30. (AP)—A federal investigation of the activities of Don West, Georgia poet, professor and preacher, was suggested today by the Whitfield County grand jury.

West in the past has been accused in official records of Communist activity—a connection that he has repeatedly denied. He is now listed as a minister here of the Church of God of the Union Assembly and is editor of The Southerner, a monthly publication.

## JURY STAND

The grand jury in a special report sharply criticized West for what it said was failure to cooperate with the jury when called in an investigation ordered by Judge J. H. Paschall of Calhoun in his October charge to the jurors.

Its report said:

"The grand jury did not go further into this matter, feeling that such an investigation should be referred to federal authorities. However, the grand jury does want the public to be aware of the fact that Communist activities may be going on in our own home community and all of us who love America and our way of life should ever be watchful that communism does not infiltrate and spread into our community.

## ELLIJAY MAN

"By direction of the grand jury, the foreman and two other members will appear before the January 1956 grand jury to urge that they continue the investigation of Communist activities in our community."

West, 47, a native of Ellijay, could not be reached at once for

comment. But last August he declared to a reporter: "I'm not a Communist. I'm a Christian, a humble follower of Jesus Christ."

The Daily Worker at times has referred to him as a Communist Party member and organizer. In Washington in 1952, a witness before a Senate subcommittee accused him of trying to infiltrate the Boy Scouts with communism.

West, then farming in Douglas County, called this testimony "lousy lies." He said that 20 years earlier he wrote a poem for the Daily Worker, Communist organ, and had been "a Communist then," but was not a Communist any longer.

## SCHOOL CHIEF

West taught English briefly in 1946-48 at Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, and was at one time superintendent of schools at Lula, Ga. He was active in the Henry Wallace for President campaign in 1948.

He is author of a book of poems, "Clods of Southern Earth," which had a big sale several years ago.

The grand jury report said West invoked the Fifth Amendment in refusing to answer questions put to him to determine "whether there was activity in our county which would be detrimental to all our people."

## REPORT CONTINUES

The report went on:

"We wish to state that this body recognizes the right of any person, including the editor of The Southerner, to invoke the aid of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States whenever any answer to a question asked by this group might tend to incriminate such person. We wish to point out that this grand jury is a legally constituted agency of our government with a duty to represent and protect the rights of all citizens in our county, including the editor of The Southerner. This being the case, we feel we have the right to expect the full co-operation of all law-abiding citizens who are interested in the welfare of our community when called before us as witnesses. We did not receive this cooperation from Don West, editor of The Southerner."

The jury also commended Mark Pace, editor of the Dalton News and the Dalton Citizen, who called upon the jury to investigate West.

Judge Paschall is scheduled to convene court here Jan. 16. He was in court today at Cartersville.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP/LSK/BK

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA  
DECEMBER 31, 1955  
PAGE 1, COL. 4,  
PAGE 3, COL. 8

ENCLOSURE

100-20396-151

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/9/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BK

THE DALTON CITIZEN  
DALTON, GEORGIA  
November 3, 1955  
Page 1, Col. 1

RE: DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C  
(AT 100-559) 51

63 NOV 28 1955

## Does West Think Grand Jury Would Enter into Frame-up?

Apparently, Don West, co-publisher of The Southerner, doesn't possess respect for the Whitfield County grand jury as a group or for the men individually.

According to reports published in Oct. 17 issue of The National Guardian, a New York City publication, (whose editor has been deported from the United States) West wrote friends in New York in which the article pointed out he "wouldn't be surprised at a frame-up effort" between the grand jury and the local newspapers which have exposed his background.

Does Don West think the members of the grand jury, under oath

to honestly and conscientiously carry out their obligation as jurors, would stoop to a frame-up against him?

Does Don West think this newspaper would ever entertain the thought of proposing a frame-up with members of the jury?

Such a proposal would get us thrown into jail quicker than we could bat an eye.

Does Don West think he can get his New York friends to believe that a Whitfield County, Ga., grand jury would be a part of such a frame-up? Is that the type picture he would want to paint for readers of The Guardian? Dalton

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)  
and Whitfield County receive enough unfavorable publicity without efforts made to show the grand jury being bought off or intimidated.

Don West charged that in publishing his record from the files of the Committee on Un-American Activities, the newspapers were smearing him. That's the way they all squawk when the committee record against them is published.

To substantiate our findings, we asked in an editorial that the grand jury look into the records we had published, and to let that group of men decide for themselves whether we were sticking to records and facts or whether we were pulling nightmares out of the air and making false news articles out of them.

We have all the respect in the world in the work and in the findings of the grand jury. While we do not know all of the men, personally, we do have faith in their character and integrity. Certainly that group of men would have no part in stooping to a frame-up operation against Don West. Insofar as his committee record is concerned, it speaks for itself.

The caliber of men on the grand jury, Don West, is much too high to stoop down to frame-up actions. We dare say, however, you would want your party or friends in New York and elsewhere to think otherwise.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

BUMGARDNER

17-10396  
NOT RECORDED  
191 NOV 25 1955

TO: Mr. Tolson

DATE: October 27, 1955

FROM: L. B. Nichols

11-1

SUBJECT: EDGAR C. BUNDY  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

The captioned individual is a self-styled lecturer on Communism. He is prominent in the American Legion in the State of Illinois; however, he has been accused by fellow Legionnaires on many occasions of letting his enthusiasm run away with itself. He deliberately misled us on one occasion when he requested DeLoach, in my office, to appear before the Illinois Department of the American Legion and speak concerning the jurisdiction of the FBI. We found out in sufficient time that actually Bundy had planned for the speech to be given before the Abraham Lincoln Club in Chicago which is a Republican political organization. His invitation was rejected.

DeLoach has received a personal call from [redacted] Commander of the Department of Georgia, The American Legion. Bundy has offered to lecture in Georgia and has indicated he will expose an individual by the name of Donald Lee West, and individual who is attempting to get started in the newspaper profession in the State of Georgia. Several sources of information have indicated to us that West was active in Communist affairs in Ohio in 1940. One source testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities that West was a Communist Party member in Ohio in 1940. We have received previous information indicating that Bundy has remarked to acquaintances that two former FBI informants in Ohio have advised him that West is a Communist.

b6  
b7C

During the above-mentioned call from Commander [redacted] he inquired as to whether the State of Georgia should hire Bundy to lecture. DeLoach advised him that our files are, of course, confidential but that [redacted] might desire to contact Lee Pennington, of American Legion Headquarters, before signing a contract with Bundy. [redacted] was appreciative and stated he would do this.

b6  
b7C

ACTION: For record purposes.

CDD:gjm

(3)

cc: Mr. Jones

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/24/82 BY SP-1 GSK/DPK

100-20396-  
NOT RECORDED  
176 NOV 9 1955

44-1-1-46  
ORIGINAL FILED

F B I

Date: 1/5/56

Transmit the following message via AIR TELAIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, Atlanta (100-559)  
 To: Director, FBI (100-20396)

DONALD LEE WEST, Was.  
SM - C

Remyairtel 12/31/55.

In the Grand Jury Presentments, October Term 1955, Whitfield County Superior Court, dated 12/29/55, as obtained by SA [redacted] from the Clerk of Court's Office, Dalton, Ga., the following information was noted concerning the subject:

b6  
b7c

"In his charge to the Grand Jury, the Judge referred to recent publicity in the Dalton newspapers relative to alleged Communistic activities in Dalton, and asked that this matter be investigated.

"In line with this investigation, the Grand Jury called before it various individuals, including the editors of local newspapers, since in these newspapers it had been alleged that the Rev. Don West had in the past been connected in other localities with Communistic activities.

"The Grand Jury found that Don West is reported to be a minister of the Church of God of the Union Assembly, and is editor of a local newspaper called the Southerner. Don West appeared before this Grand Jury but refused to answer various questions concerning his past and present activities, taking protection under the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, whereby a person cannot be compelled to testify on something that might incriminate himself.

"The questions which he refused to answer referred not only to his past conduct, but also with his present activity

- ③ - Bureau (100-20396) (RM)  
 1 - Atlanta (100-559)

EX-125

RECORDED - 28

100-20396-152

CPR/eer  
 (4) Mr. Belmont

A. M.

A. M. S. D.

SPEC. DEL.

10 JAN 6 1956

Approved: [Signature]  
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent [Signature] M Per [Signature]

71 JAN 1 2 1956

SUBV. CONTROL

Mr. Tolson ☒  
 Mr. Nichols ☒  
 Mr. Boardman ☒  
 Mr. Belmont ☒  
 Mr. Mason ☐  
 Mr. Mohr ☐  
 Mr. Parsons ☐  
 Mr. Rosen ☐  
 Mr. Tamm ☐  
 Mr. Nease ☐  
 Mr. Winterrowd ☐  
 Tel. Room ☐  
 Mr. Holloman ☐  
 Gandy ☐

BLAND

TIP

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/19/02 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following message via \_\_\_\_\_

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC,

To:

AT 100-559

Page 2

"in our community. These questions were asked by the Grand Jury as a body, representing all the people of Whitfield County, and for the purpose of determining whether there was activity in our County which would be detrimental to all of our people.

"We wish to state that this body recognizes the right of any person, including the editor of the Southerner, to invoke the aid of the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States whenever any answer to a question asked by this group might tend to incriminate such person. We wish to point out that this Grand Jury is a legally constituted agency of our Government with a duty to represent and protect the rights of all citizens in our County, including the editor of the Southerner. This being the case, we feel we have the right to expect the full cooperation of all law abiding citizens who are interested in the welfare of our community when called before us as witnesses. We did not receive this cooperation from Don West, editor of the Southerner.

"The Grand Jury did not go further into this matter, feeling that such an investigation should be referred to Federal Authorities. However, the Grand Jury does want the public to be aware of the fact that Communistic activities can be going on in our own home community, and all of us who love America and our way of life should ever be watchful that Communism does not infiltrate and spread into our community.

"The Grand Jury wishes to commend the editors of the Dalton News and Dalton Citizen on their alertness in this matter and their policy to expose such activity if and when it exists.

"By direction of the Grand Jury, the Foreman and two other members will appear before the January 1956 Grand Jury, to urge that they continue the investigation of Communistic activities in our community."

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following message via \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC,

To:

AT 100-559

Page 3

This information appears to be the press release appearing in the Atlanta Constitution of December 31, 1955, which article was forwarded to the Bureau as an enclosure to reairtel.

MUMFORD

END

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

January 25, 1956

Director, FBI (100-20396) - 153

RECORDED - 70

711 - XE

DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reurairtel 1/16/56 enclosing newspaper clipping reflecting that subject has been expelled by the Church of God of the Union Assembly, Dalton, Georgia, and that subject has left Dalton, Georgia.

By letter 1/12/56 captioned "HCUA - North Carolina Hearings," Washington Field Office advised that HCUA hearings in North Carolina are scheduled for March 12, 13, and 14, 1956. [redacted] HCUA [redacted] advised Washington Field Office on 1/11/56 that West will definitely be a witness before HCUA. [redacted] did not indicate whether a subpoena had been served on West.

b6  
b7C

Submit up-to-date report to reach Bureau by 3/1/56.

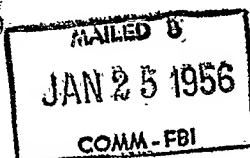
0-1 AT  
3-13-56  
RET

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Subject identified as CP member as early as 1934. He has been identified as CP member as late as 1947. Bufiles contain no information reflecting subject has ever defected from or been expelled by CP. Subject has maintained some contact with current SI subjects and his name was found among effects of Junius Scales, Smith Act defendant at time of his arrest 11/18/54. Subject interviewed 3/2/54 and was partially cooperative. He admitted CP membership 1935-1936.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RET:amc 398  
(4)  
52 JAN 31 1956



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BS

JFB  
R61

F B I

Date: 1/16/56

Transmit the following message via AIRTELAIRMAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, ATLANTA (100-559)

To: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-20396)

DONALD LEE WEST  
SM-C

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Re Atlanta airtel to Bureau dated 1/5/56.

Enclosed is an article appearing in the Atlanta Constitution 1/14/56, which reflects that subject has been expelled by the Church of God of the Union Assembly, Dalton, Ga., and has left Dalton.

MUMFORD

END

3 - Bureau (100-20396) (REGISTERED MAIL) (Encl. 1) ENCL.  
1 - Atlanta (100-559)

CPR/kim  
(4)

Mr. Belmont

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

RECORDED - 70

EX. - 118

16 JAN 26 1956

SUBV CONTROL

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

# Church Puts Out Dalton's Don West

Constitution State News Service  
DALTON, Jan. 13 — Don West, Dalton minister and editor, Friday night was expelled from his church by the church membership.

The action came after the Rev. C. T. Pratt, founder and national moderator of the Church of God of the Union Assembly, Friday afternoon ordered West to testify before a grand jury investigating communism or "get out of my church."

A Dalton spokesman said the church membership Friday night voted "100 per cent" to expel the pastor. The spokesman also said West turned in his keys to the church Friday afternoon.

## HANDED ULTIMATUM

The Rev. Mr. Pratt issued his ultimatum at a quarterly session here attended by some 100 ministers of the church from 12 states. After the expulsion vote was taken, Pratt said he had not heard from West since the day meeting. Pratt said West turned in his church keys shortly after the day meeting. The moderator quoted members of West's congregation as saying they saw the minister pack his belongings and leave Dalton.

The Rev. Mr. Pratt, who in the past has defended West against public charges of Communist affiliations, Friday had an oath disavowing communism administered to all church ministers except West.

## LEADER'S DECISION

The church moderator said he decided on the oath after waking up about 2 a.m. Tuesday and finding "the Lord talking about communism."

West, 47-year-old native of nearby Ellijay, was summoned to testify before a Whitfield grand jury investigating communism last October. He invoked the 5th Amendment in refusing to answer questions.

Whitfield Sol. Erwin Mitchell attended Friday's session to administer the oath. He was accompanied by Mark Pace, editor of The Dalton News and Citizen, who has campaigned in his news-

paper for an investigation of West.

Before administering the oath, Mitchell asked if any of the ministers had invoked the 5th Amendment in refusing to testify before a grand jury or the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

"Yes, I have," spoke up West from the back of the speakers' rostrum.

Mitchell then turned to the Rev. Mr. Pratt and said: "I will be glad to administer the oath to everyone except Don West."

The Rev. Mr. Pratt declared: "If any of my ministers won't swear before a grand jury or any other jury that he is not a Communist, I don't want him in this church. We want to know if any of you are Communists."

The moderator then ordered West either to appear before the grand jury and testify whether he had been a Communist since joining the Church of God in 1952, "or get out of my church."

Mitchell told the Rev. Mr. Pratt there were questions concerning West's activities before 1952 that should be answered.

The solicitor promised that West would be the first witness to appear before the Whitfield grand jury Monday morning.

In addition to serving as a Church of God minister, West is editor of a monthly known as The Southerner. He was an English teacher at Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, in 1946-48, and at one time was superintendent of schools at Lula.

In 1952 a witness before the Senate Internal Security subcommittee cited West as an example of the Communist plan to infiltrate the Boy Scouts. At the time West called the testimony "lousy lies."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BSK

## Face Grand Jury, or Quit Church, Don West Told

DALTON, Ga., Jan. 14 (AP)—Don West, Dalton minister and editor, Friday was ordered by the head of his church to testify before a grand jury on whether he has been a Communist "or get out of my church."

The ultimatum to West came from the Rev. C. T. Pratt of Dalton, founder and national moderator of the Church of God of the Union Assembly. Pratt delivered the ultimatum at a quarterly session attended by 90 ministers from throughout the South.

PRATT, WHO in the past has defended West against public charges of Communist affiliations, had an oath disavowing communism administered to all church ministers except West Friday.

WHITFIELD Sol. Gen. Erwin Mitchell attended the meeting to administer the oath. Before reading the oath, Mitchell asked if any of the ministers had invoked the Fifth Amendment in refusing to testify before a grand jury or the House Committee on un-American Activities.

"Yes, I have," West said. Mitchell then told Pratt he would be glad to administer the oath to "everyone except Don West."

Pratt replied: "If any of my ministers won't swear before a grand jury or any other jury that he is not a Communist, I don't want him in this church. We want to know if any of you are Communists."

Pratt then ordered West to either appear before the grand

jury and testify whether he had been a Communist since joining the church in 1952 "or get out of my church."

WEST, 47, did not say whether he would appear before the grand jury. The solicitor general said, however, that West would be the first witness before the Whitfield County grand jury Monday.

In 1952 a witness before a Senate Internal Security Subcommittee cited West as an example of the Communist plan to infiltrate the Boy Scouts. At that time West called the testimony "lousy lies."

West, in addition to serving in the ministry, is publisher of the Southerner, a monthly publication.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

~~BAUMGARDNER~~

R 11-1

file 100 - 20396  
5-RAT

20396 H

ATLANTA JOURNAL  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA  
JANUARY 14, 1956  
EDITOR: [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

RE: DONALD LEE WEST -  
SM-C  
AT 100-559

F235

66 JAN 27 1956

SAC, Atlanta (100-559)

January 27, 1956

Director, FBI (100-20396)

DONALD LEE WEST  
SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/12/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

ReBulet 1/25/56 captioned as above and  
re Boston letter 1/17/56 captioned "Communist Party,  
USA, Strategy in Industry, Internal Security - C,"  
with copies to Atlanta.

Re Boston letter states that according  
to [redacted] subject met with [redacted] a  
Communist Party colonizer, and Ed Strong, member  
of the National Negro Commission of the Communist  
Party, in New York City on 12/20/55 at which time  
they apparently discussed [redacted] transfer to  
Dalton, Georgia, where he is to work on "The  
Southerner," a newspaper edited by the subject.  
This information should be carefully paraphrased  
due to the nature of its source and included in  
the report being prepared by your office.

b2  
b6  
b7C  
b7D

In view of recent developments in this  
case you should consider the desirability of recom-  
mending subject for inclusion on the Security Index.

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Subject deleted from Security Index in  
1955 because he did not meet criteria set forth in  
SAC Letter 55-30.

RET:amc  
(4)

RECORDED-38

100-20396-154

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

283

65 FEB 2 1956

24 JAN 30 1956

COMM - FBI  
JAN 27 1956

JFB  
amc  
RET

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3/19/82 BY SP/CSK/BSK

EXHIBIT 2

## Church Puts Out Dalton's Don West

**Constitution State News Service**  
DALTON, Jan. 13 — Don West, Dalton minister and editor, Friday night was expelled from his church by the church membership.

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Continued on Page 5, Column 3

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION 14 January 1956

## Dalton Church Expels West From Pulpit

Continued from Page 1

paper for an investigation of West.

Before administering the oath, Mitchell asked if any of the ministers had invoked the 5th Amendment in refusing to testify before a grand jury or the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

"Yes, I have," spoke up West from the back of the speakers' rostrum.

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In 1952 a witness before the Senate Internal Security subcommittee cited West as an example of the Communist plan to infiltrate the Boy Scouts. At the time West called the testimony "lousy lies."

ENCLOSURE

100-20396-155

## GEORGIA IN BRIEF

# West, Expelled From Church, Leaves Dalton

DALTON, Jan. 14 (AP)—Don West, former minister and editor who invoked the Fifth Amendment when a grand jury sought to question him about communism, Saturday had left town, apparently free from any further local inquiry.

West packed his belongings and left late Friday after the Rev. C. T. Pratt, moderator of the Church of God of the Union Assembly, publicly called on him to testify before the grand jury or "get out of my church." Then, said a spokesman, the church's quarterly conference attended by some 100 ministers from 12 states unanimously voted Friday night to expel West.

Pratt said that West turned in the keys not only to a church he served here, but also to the printing plant of the Southerner, a publication controlled by Pratt and edited by West.

SOL. GEN. Erwin Mitchell said that although West was called before a Whitfield County grand jury investigating communism last October, he was under no subpoena to appear before a new grand jury convening Monday. Hence, explained the prosecutor, he was not in contempt in leaving the county.

West, poet, former school teacher and superintendent and college professor, has in recent years vigorously denied any Communist leanings or ties. In 1952, he branded as "lousy lies" a charge of a former Communist before a U.S. Senate subcommittee that he had once attempted to infiltrate the Boy Scouts with communism.

Then farming in Douglas County, he said that 20 years earlier he had written a poem for the Daily Worker, Communist organ, was "a Communist then," but since had severed all ties with the party.

WEST IS a 47-year-old native of the nearby mountain town of Ellijay. No announcement of his destination was made upon his departure from Dalton.

THE ATLANTA JOURNAL AND CONSTITUTION

Sunday, 15 January 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RJK

EXHIBIT D

100-20396-155

ENCLOSURE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 2  
Page 152 ~ Referral/Direct  
Page 153 ~ Referral/Direct